

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Amulet

K A Z U K I B U I S H I

BOOK NINE
WAVERIDER

 SCHOLASTIC

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2023934566

e-ISBN 978-0-545-82869-7

First edition, February 2024
Edited by Cassandra Pelham Fulton
Book design by Kazu Kibuishi and Phil Falco
Publisher: David Saylor

BOOK NINE
WAVERIDER



AN IMPRINT OF

 **SCHOLASTIC**



EVERY ACTION CREATES
A RIPPLE IN TIME AND SPACE.

EVERY RIPPLE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO
BECOME A GIANT WAVE WHEN AMPLIFIED
OUT ACROSS THE UNIVERSE.

WHAT WE DO HERE
RESONATES FAR BEYOND
OUR REACH AND VISION.

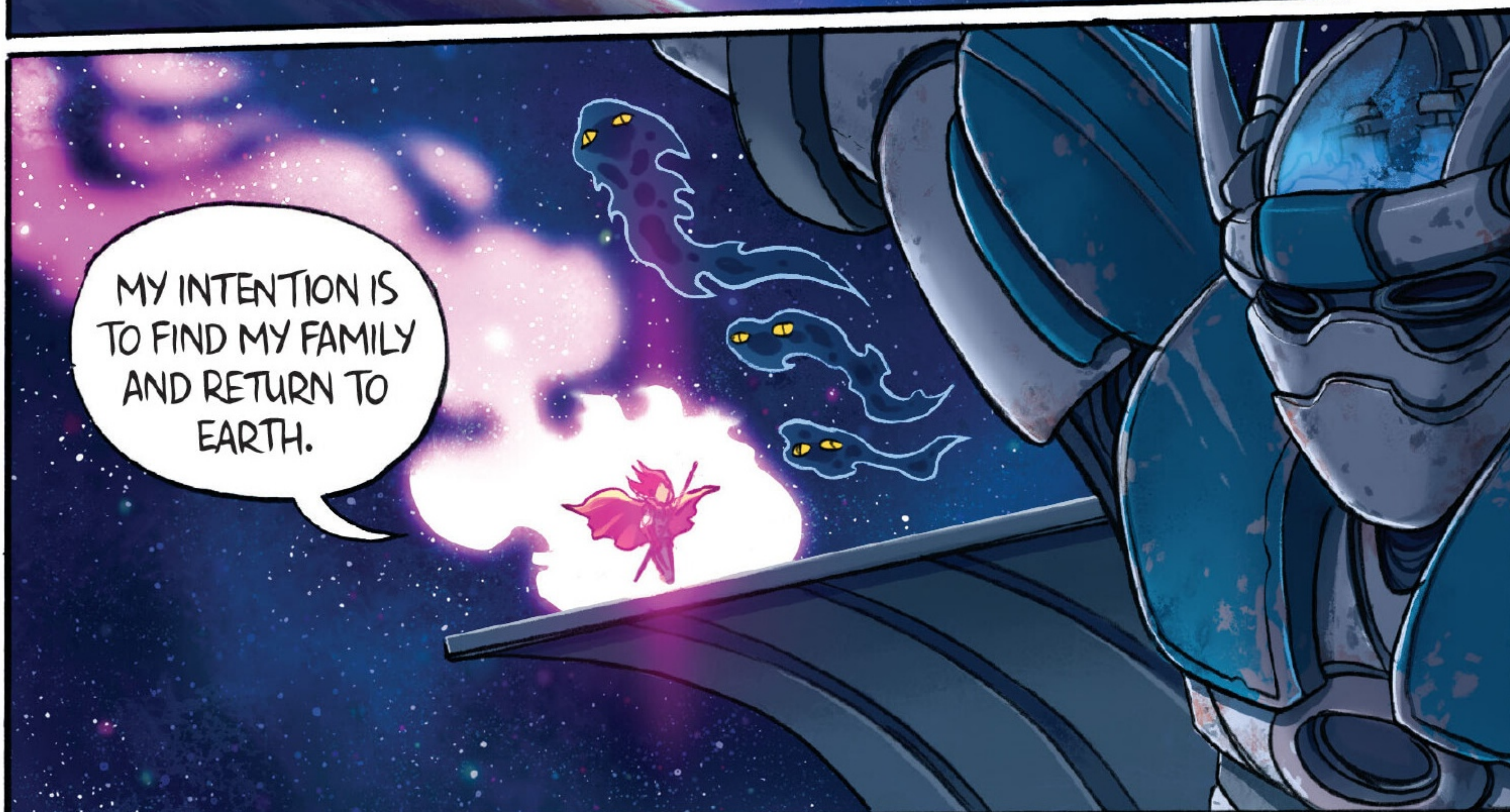
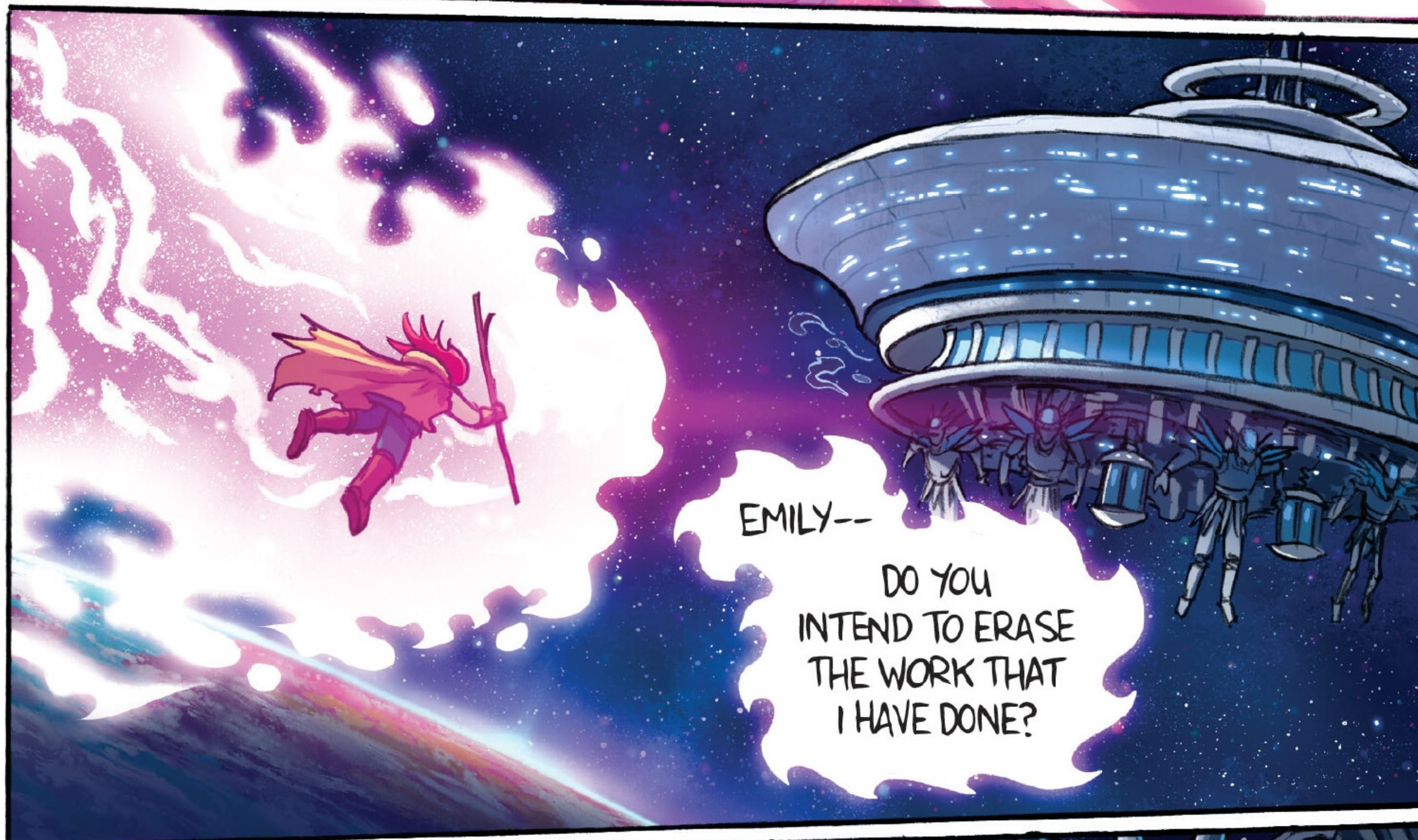
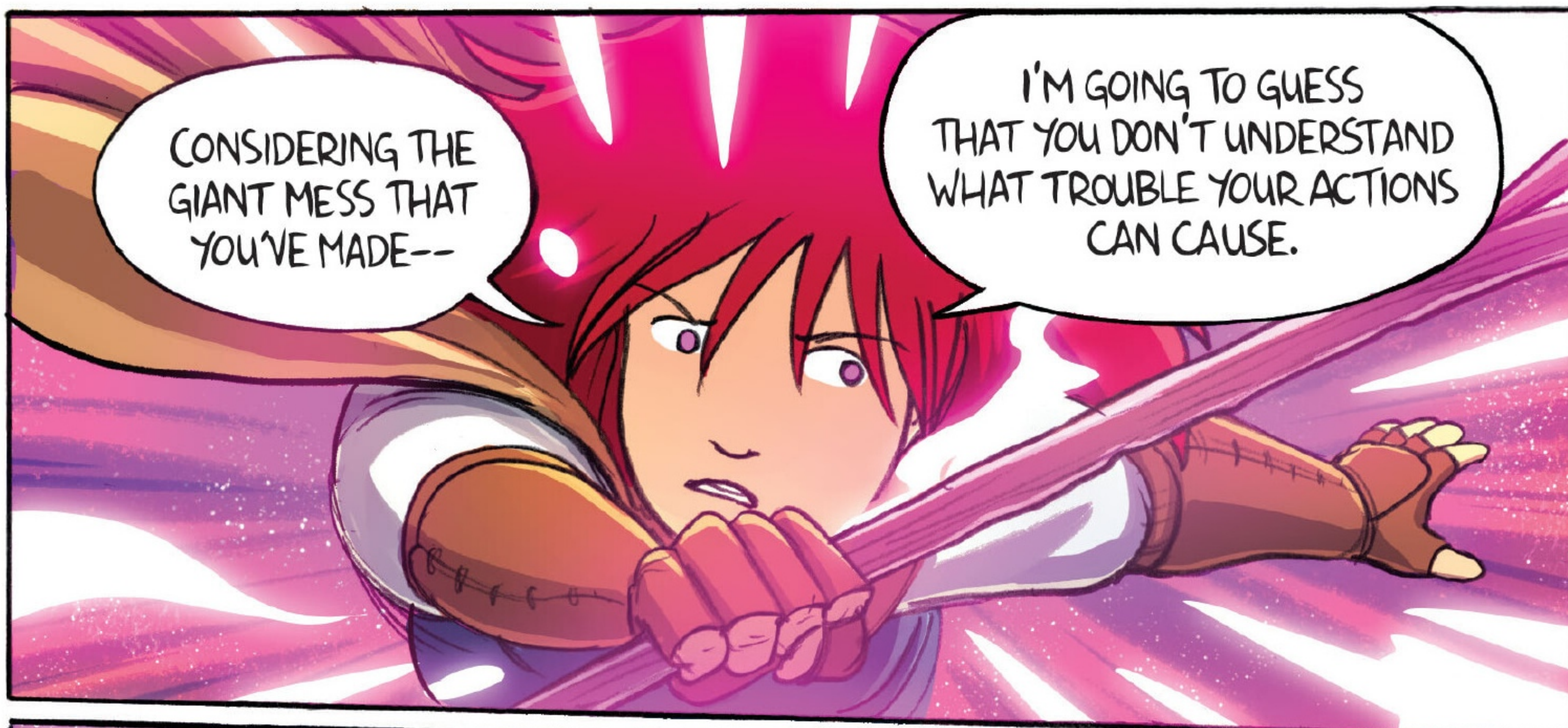
DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE
RAMIFICATIONS OF YOUR
ACTIONS, EMILY?

A character with red hair and a red cape is floating in a swirling, ethereal field of blue and purple energy. The character is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the frame, facing left. The energy field consists of large, billowing, flame-like shapes in shades of blue and purple, with a bright, glowing core in the center. The background is a dark, starry space. The character's cape is flowing behind them, and they appear to be holding a long, thin object, possibly a staff or a sword, which is also glowing with a red light. The overall atmosphere is one of intense energy and mystery.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND
THE WEIGHT PUT UPON YOUR
SHOULDERS?

THAT'S A GOOD
QUESTION, IKOL.

HOW ABOUT
YOU?





AND YOU BELIEVE
THAT YOU CAN LIVE
PEACEFULLY ON EARTH
AFTER ALL YOU HAVE
EXPERIENCED HERE?

YES.

I WILL
ADJUST.

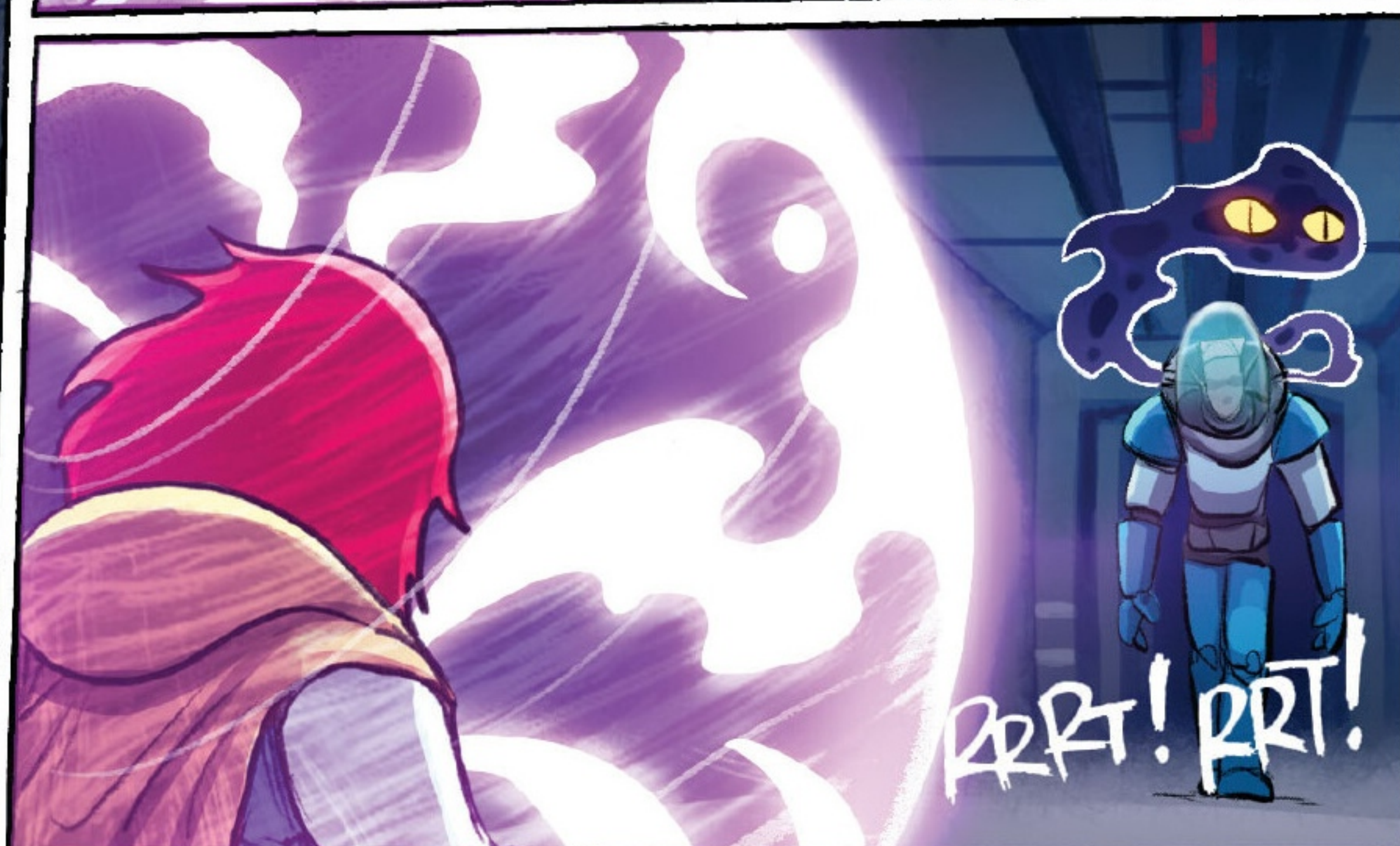
I HAVE MY DOUBTS,
STONEKEEPER.



MUCH LIKE
THE SHADOWS--
OUR WORLD WILL
HAUNT YOU--



AND NEVER
LET YOU GO.



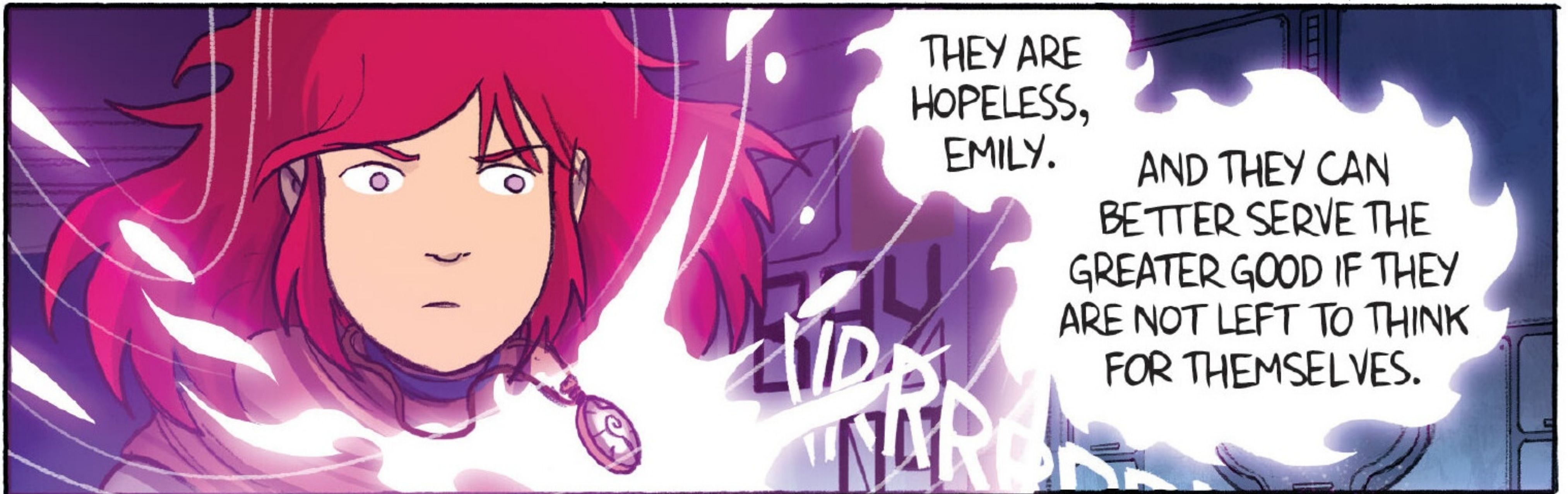
RRRT! RRT!



YOU BELIEVE
THAT OTHERS WANT
TO BE FREE--

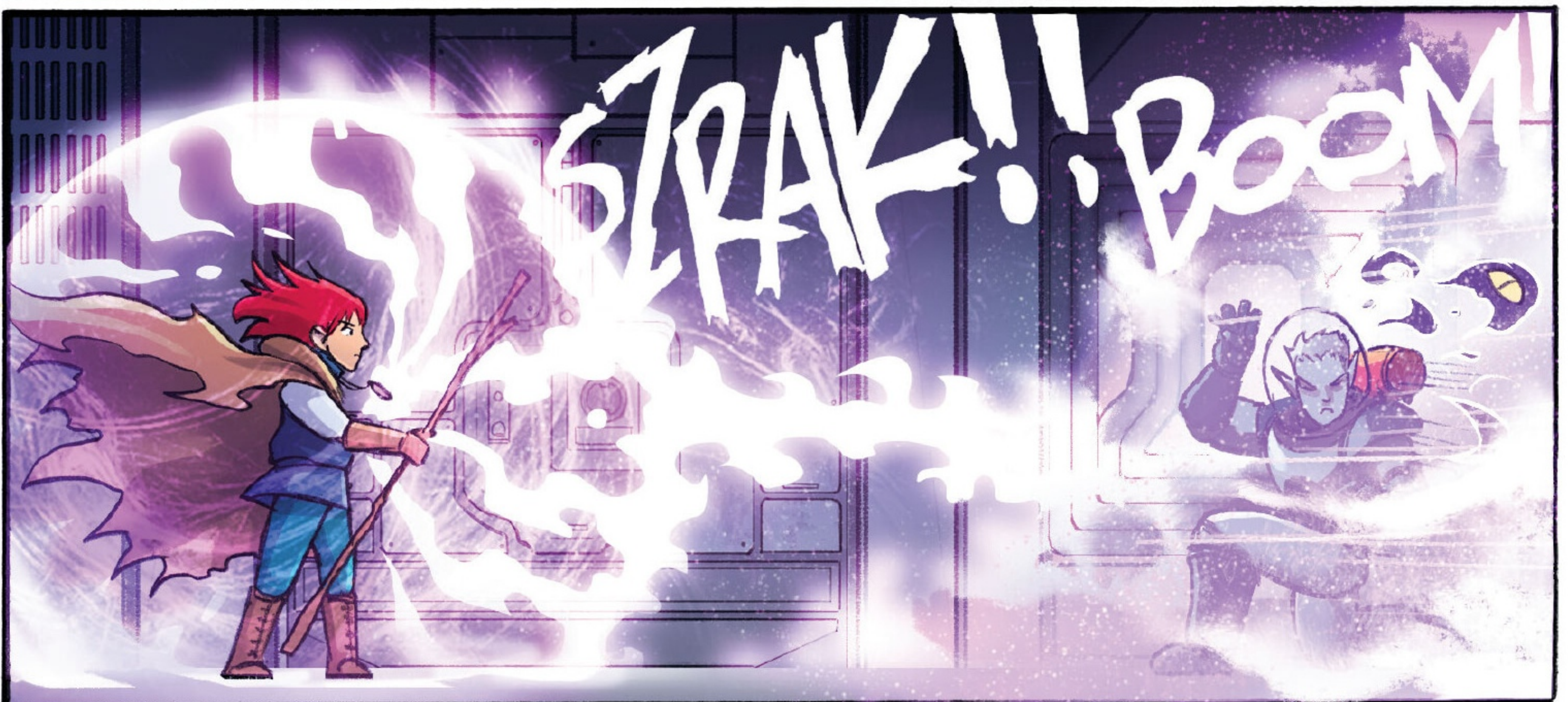
THE WAY YOU
BELIEVE THAT YOU
ARE FREE.

BUT YOU ARE
MISTAKEN.



THEY ARE
HOPELESS,
EMILY.

AND THEY CAN
BETTER SERVE THE
GREATER GOOD IF THEY
ARE NOT LEFT TO THINK
FOR THEMSELVES.



YOU ARE FREE
OF THE SHADOW,
MY FRIEND.

AND NOW I
COULD USE YOUR
HELP.

WHAT--
WHY--





CAN YOU TAKE ME
TO THE CONTROL
CENTER?
I NEED TO CONTACT
MY BROTHER, NAVIN
HAYES.



HAVE YOU SEEN
HIM? OR MY MOTHER,
KAREN HAYES?

WHY HAVE
YOU DONE THIS
TO ME?



WHY HAVE YOU
TAKEN MY SHADOW
AWAY?



SHE'S HERE!

THE STONEKEEPER
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR
IS HERE!

PLEASE TAKE
ME BACK!



AND TAKE
HER DOWN!

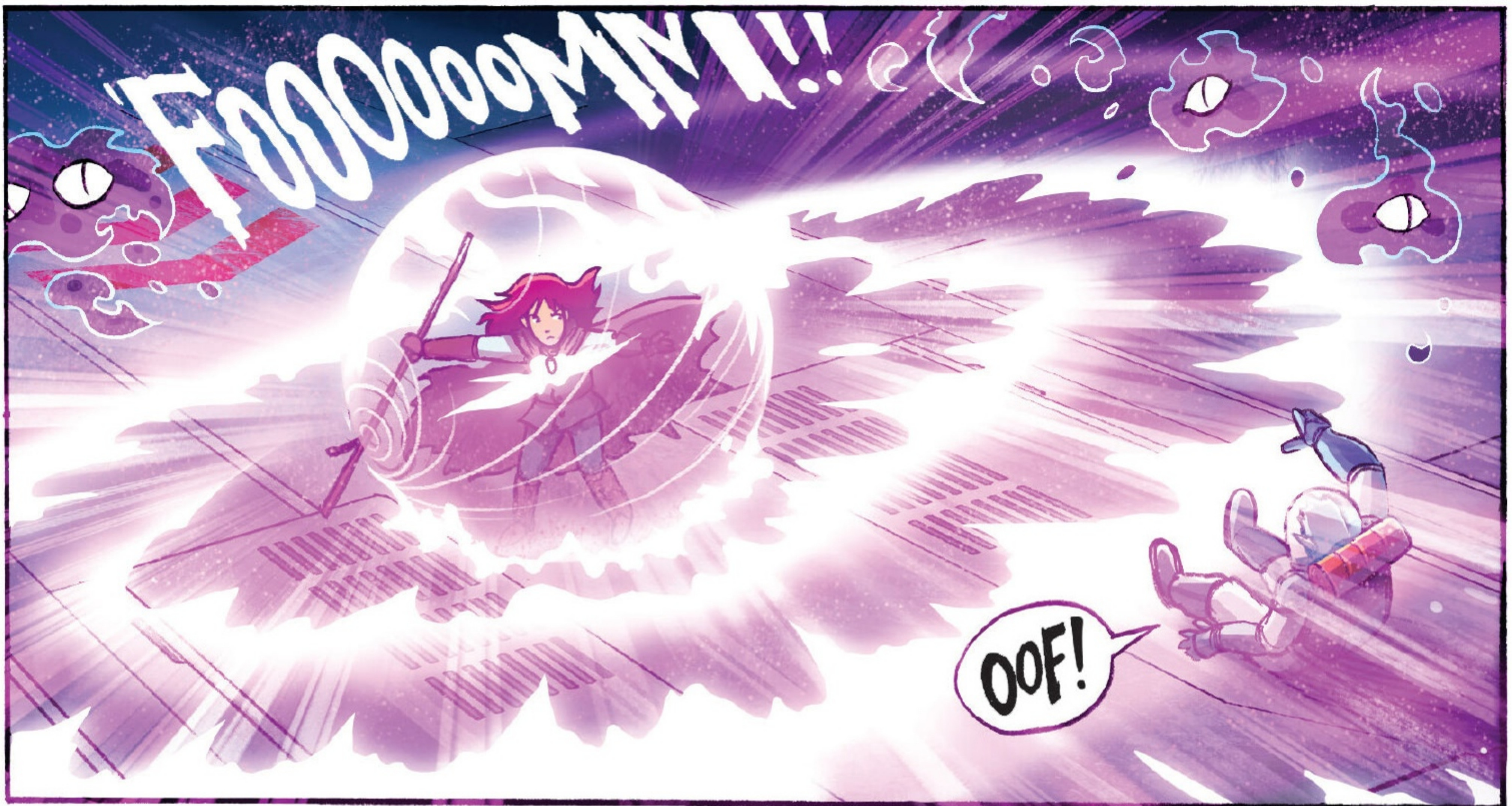


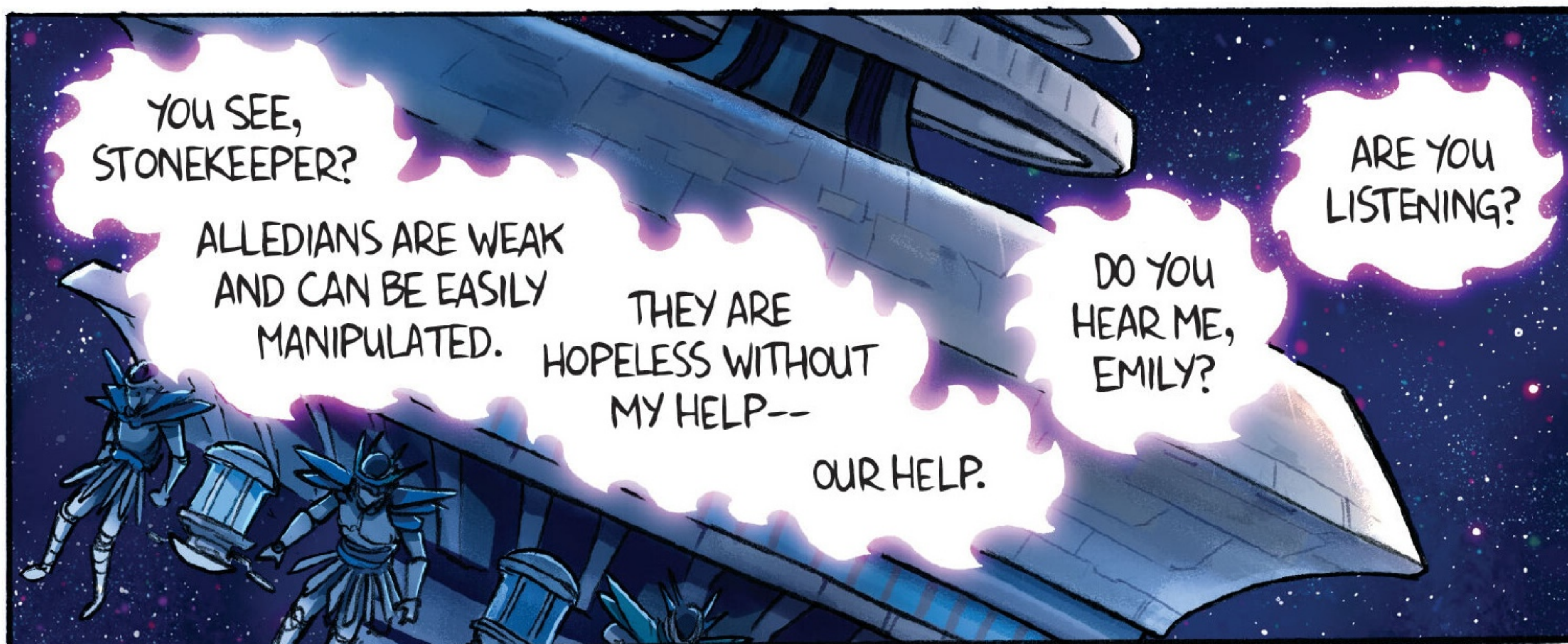
UNGH!

SHIFFF



SLICE!!!





YOU SEE,
STONEKEEPER?

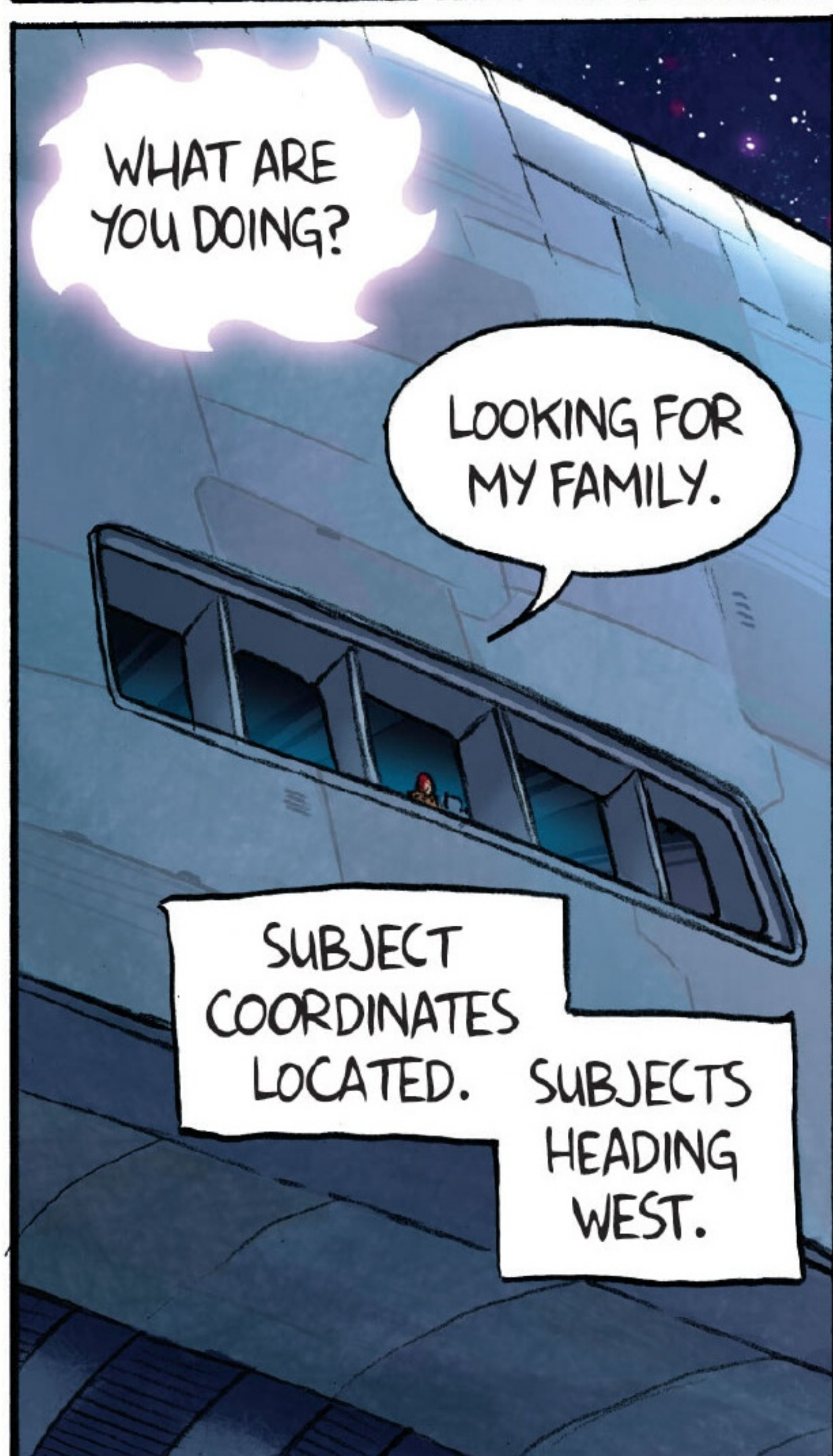
ALLEDIANS ARE WEAK
AND CAN BE EASILY
MANIPULATED.

THEY ARE
HOPELESS WITHOUT
MY HELP--

OUR HELP.

DO YOU
HEAR ME,
EMILY?

ARE YOU
LISTENING?



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?

LOOKING FOR
MY FAMILY.

SUBJECT
COORDINATES
LOCATED.

SUBJECTS
HEADING
WEST.



THEY'RE ON
THE SURFACE OF
TYPHON, DIRECTLY
BELOW US.

THAT'S WHERE
WE NEED TO GO.

HEY!



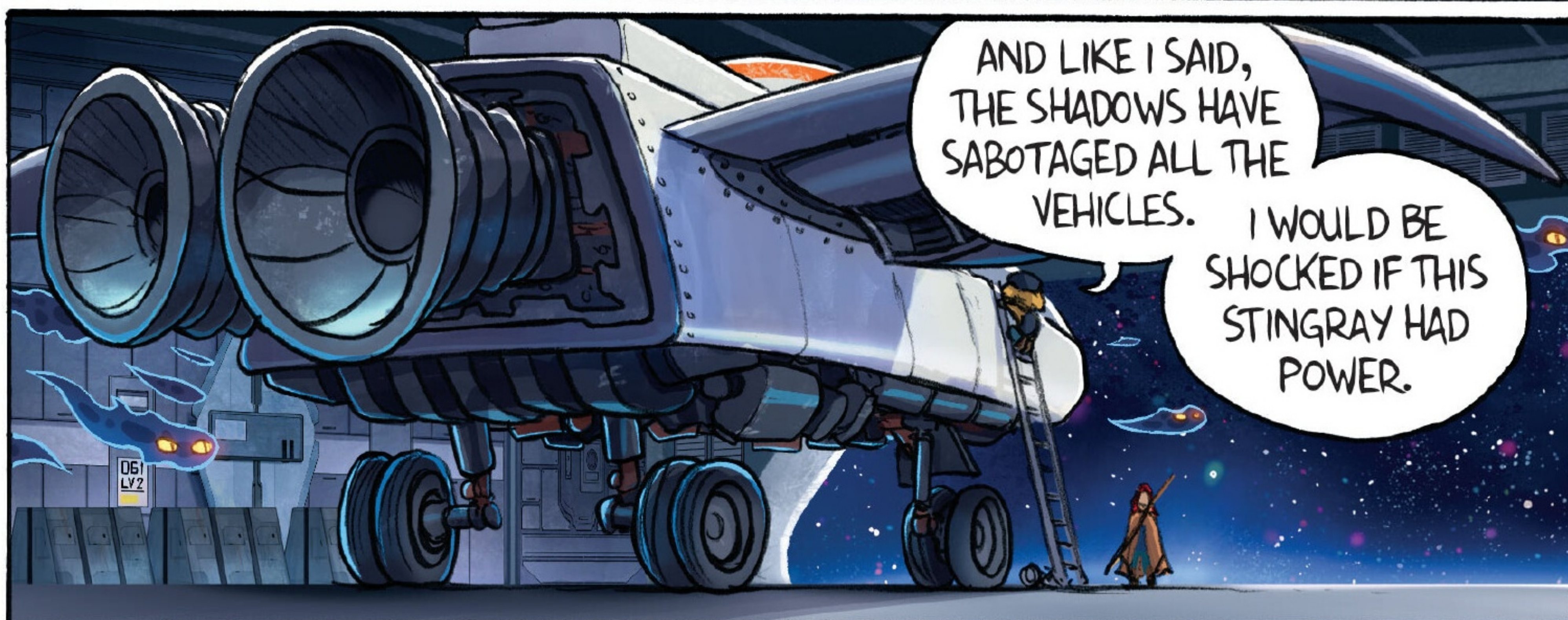
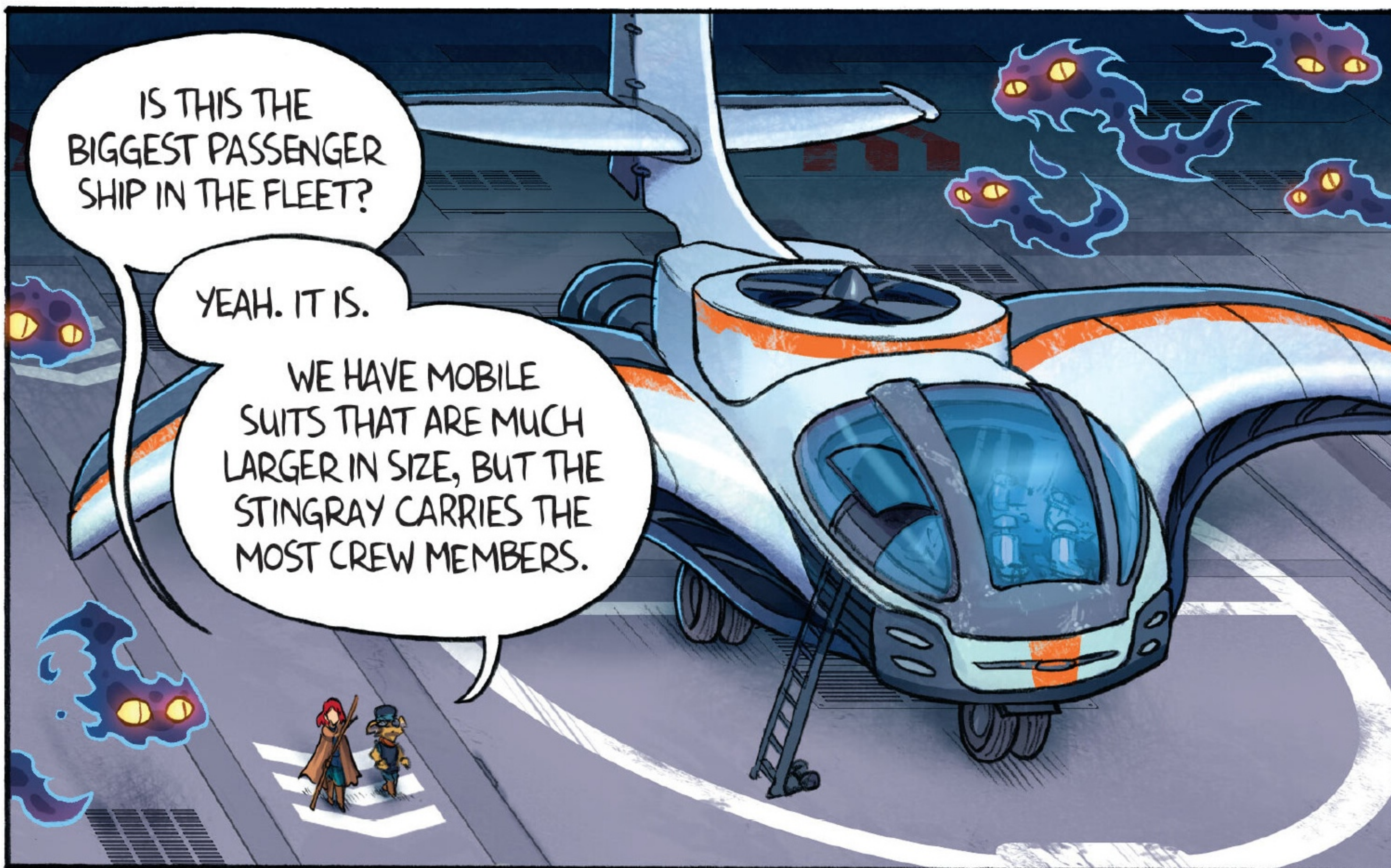
BACK AWAY
FROM THAT
TERMINAL!

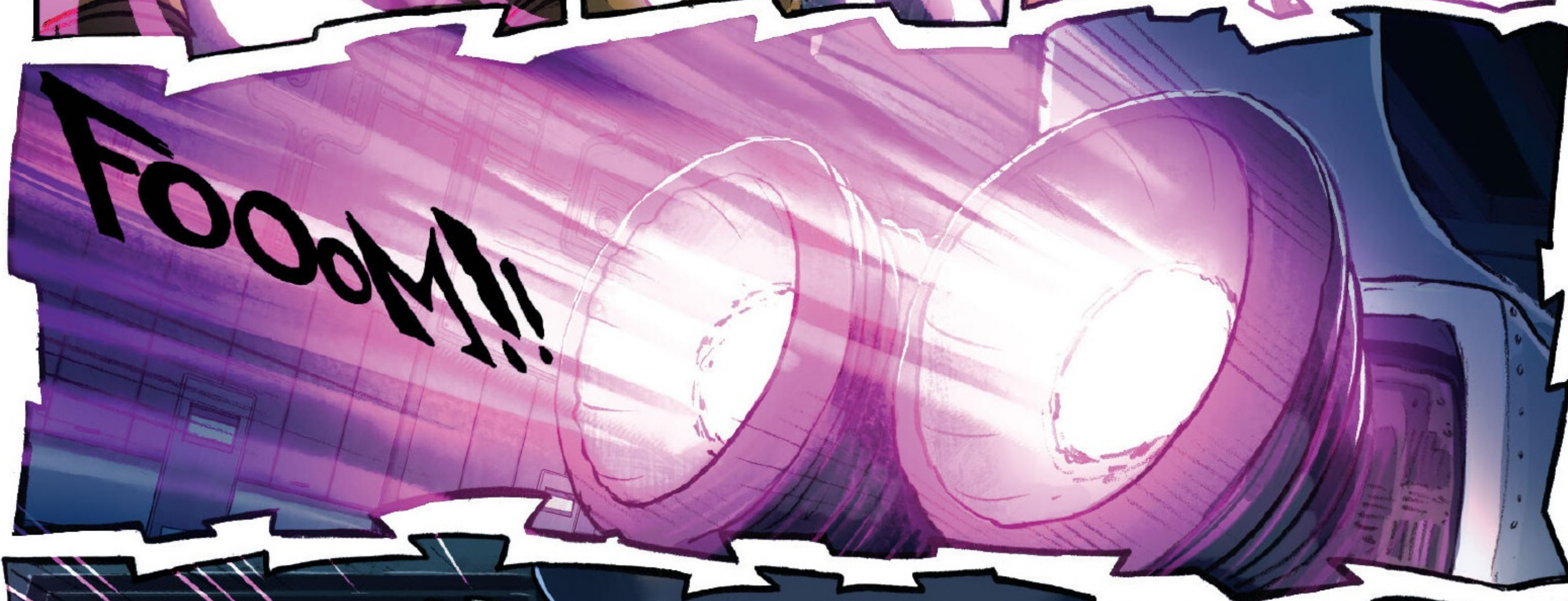
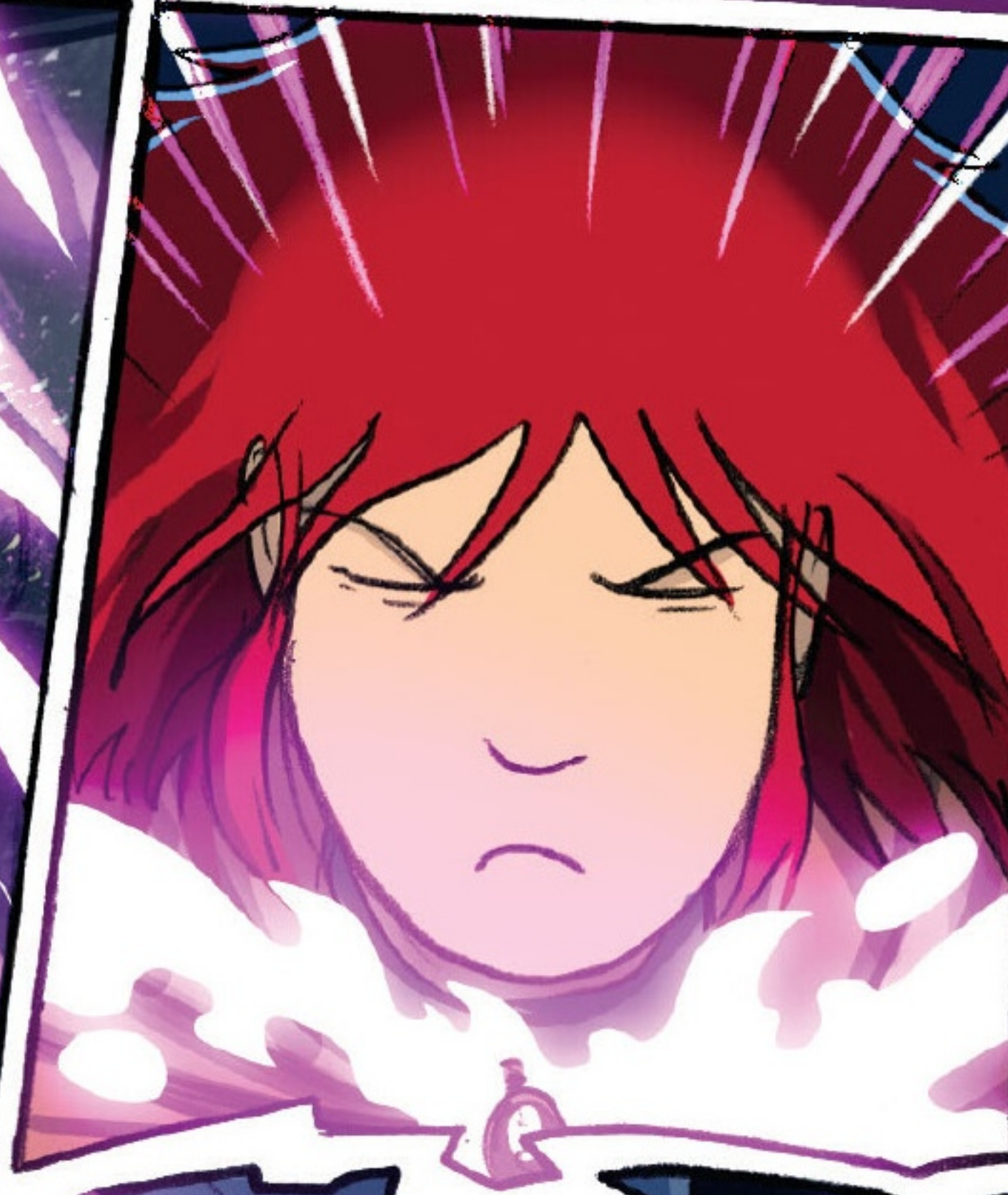
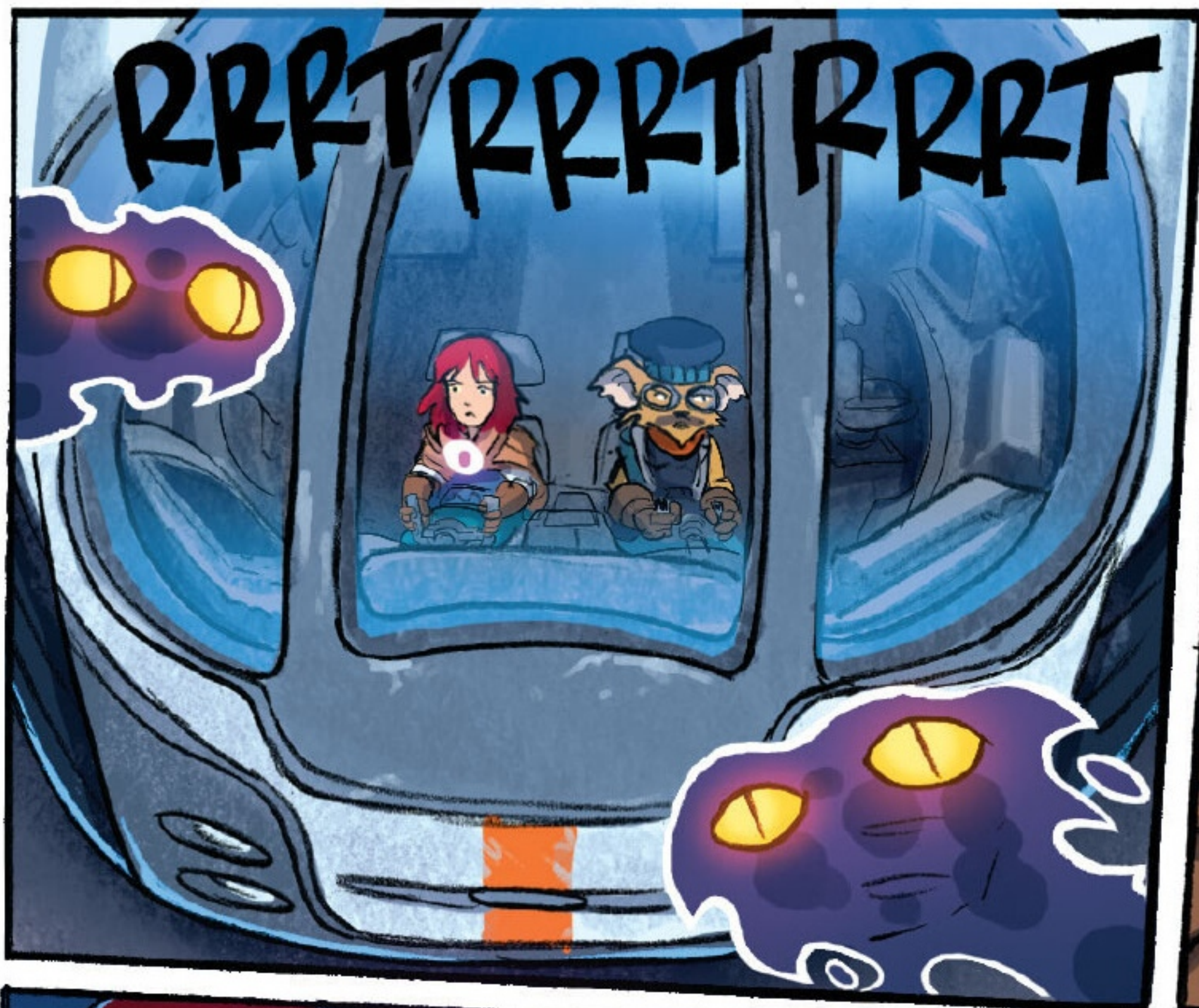


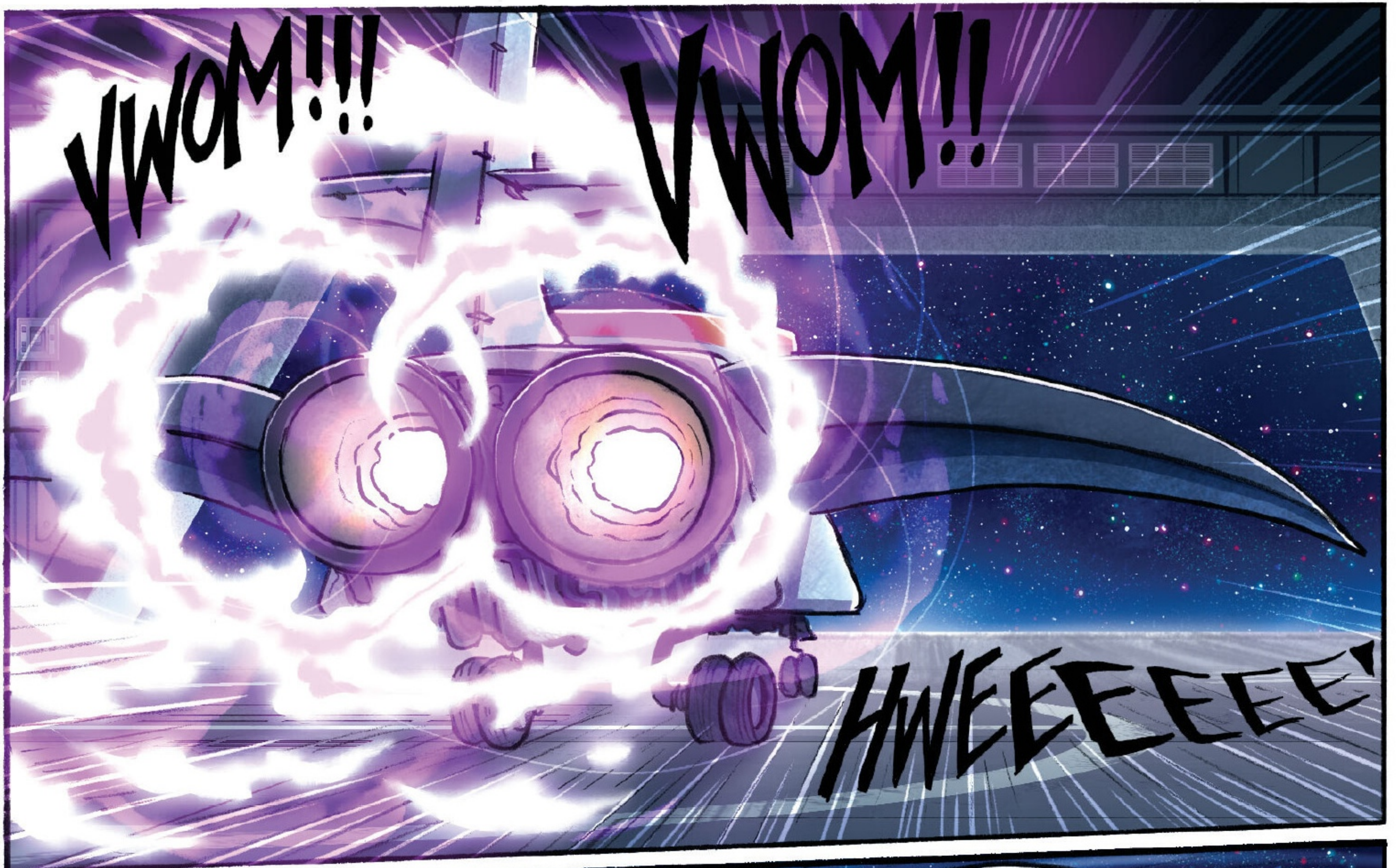
I DON'T KNOW
WHO YOU ARE, BUT
IF YOU'RE NOT INFECTED
BY ONE OF THOSE GHOST
THINGS, YOU OUGHT TO
GET OUT WHILE YOU
STILL CAN!

EVERYONE
ON THIS STATION
HAS GONE MAD!













STAY
WITH ME!

DON'T
PASS OUT ON
ME!!!

BEEP! BEEP!!

WARNING!

TOTAL POWER
LOSS DETECTED--

AW,
MAN.

ALL SYSTEMS
SHUTTING DOWN
IN FIVE...FOUR...

AW--

NO. NO NO NO...

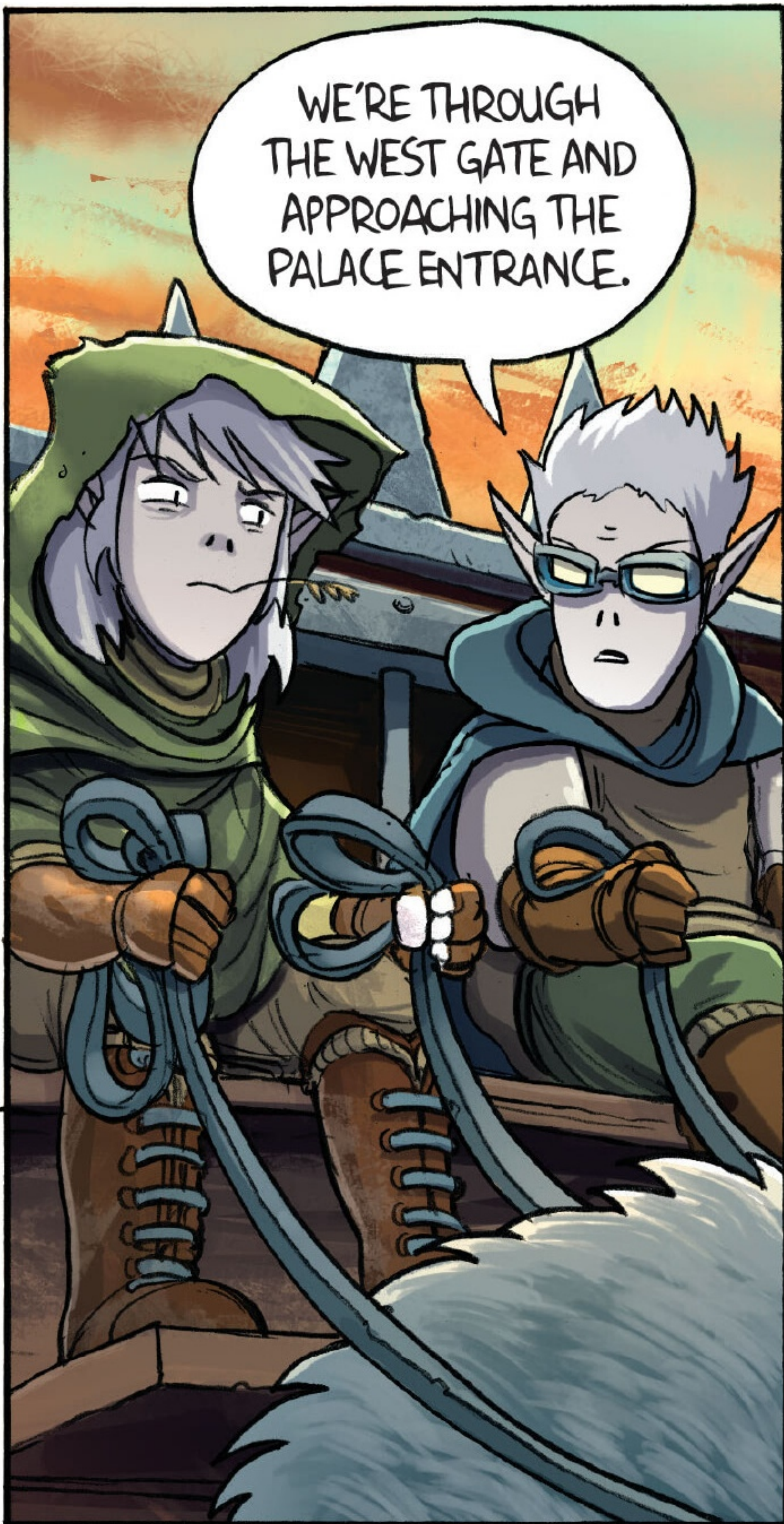
THREE...

TWO...

ONE...

VALCOR,
THE KINGDOM OF
THE ELVES









OKAY,
WE'RE
THROUGH THE
GATE.



WHAT ARE ALL
THOSE ELVES
DOING OUT THERE?

DIGGING.



THEY'RE SEARCHING
FOR BURIED TREASURE
AND ANY RESOURCES
THEY CAN SELL.

THE KINGDOM
IS SUFFERING.



IF THE FALSE
KING HAS BEEN
DEPOSED, WHO HAVE
THEY ADOPTED AS THEIR
NEW LEADER?

WE HAVE BEEN
TOLD THAT HE IS ONE
OF THE KING'S FORMER
SERVANTS.

HE HAS NOT
SHOWN A GREAT
ABILITY TO LEAD.



OUR PEOPLE NEED
YOU TO RECLAIM YOUR
PLACE AS KING,
TRELLIS.



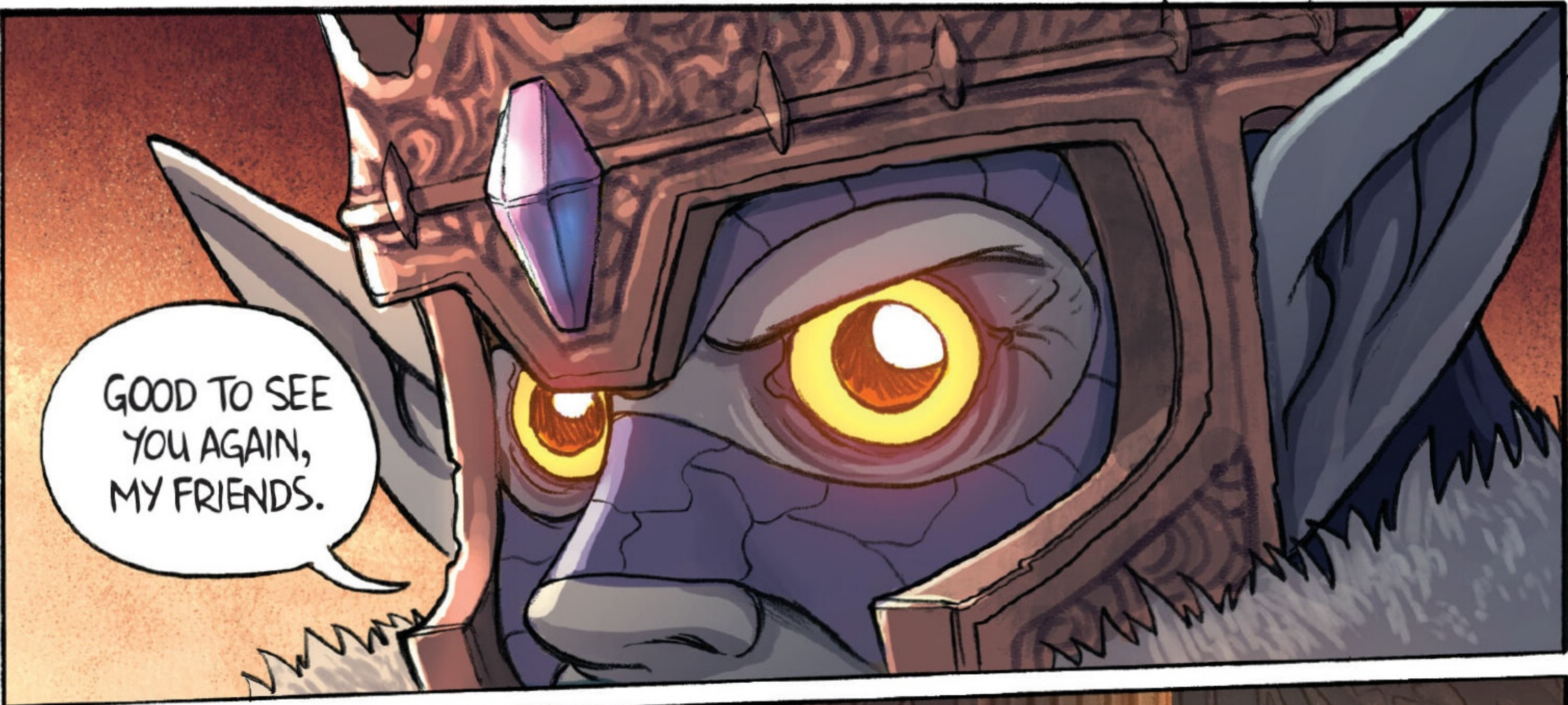
OUR NATION HAS MORE
PRESSING ISSUES THAN
WHOEVER IS SITTING
ON THE THRONE.

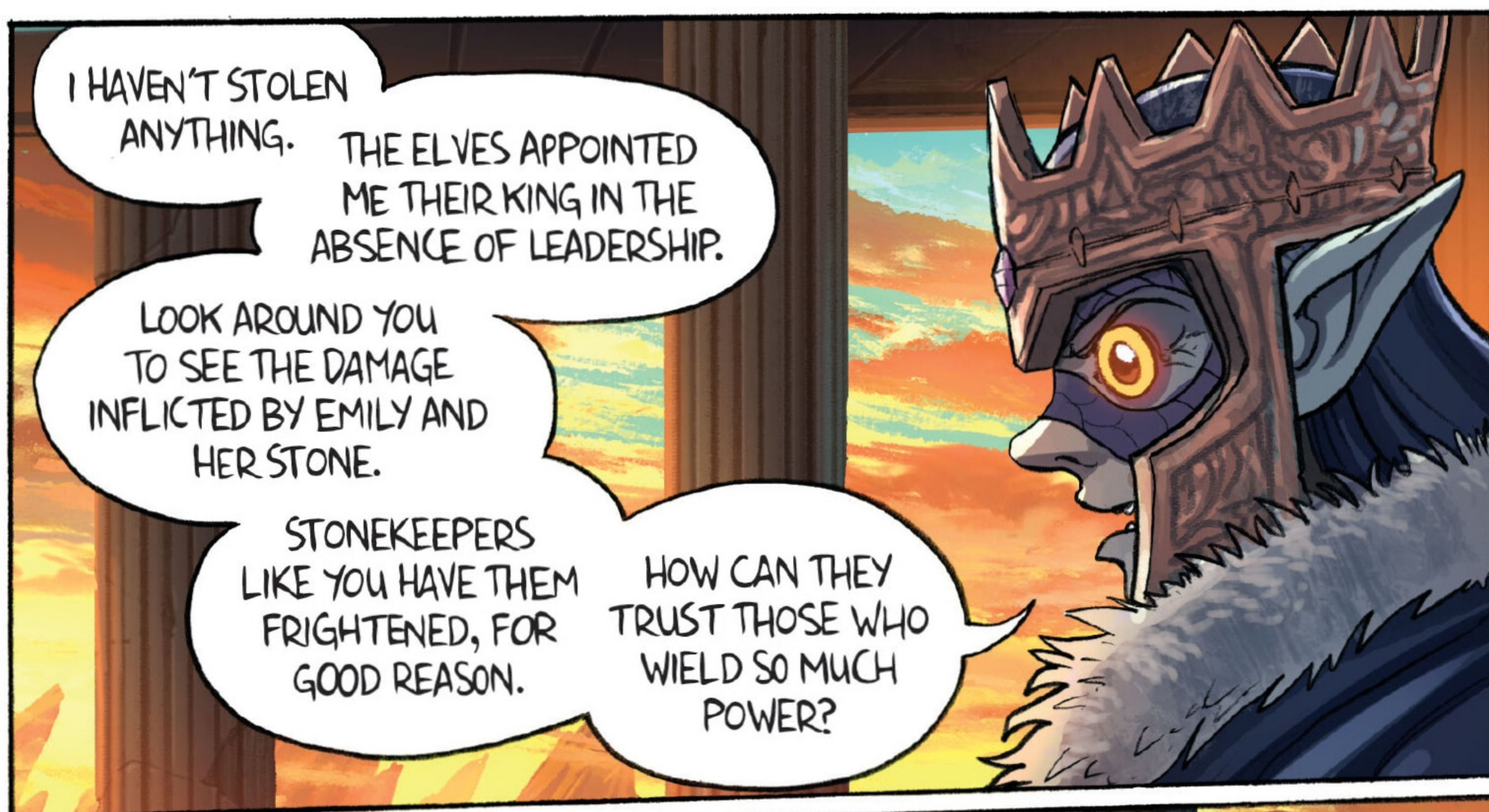


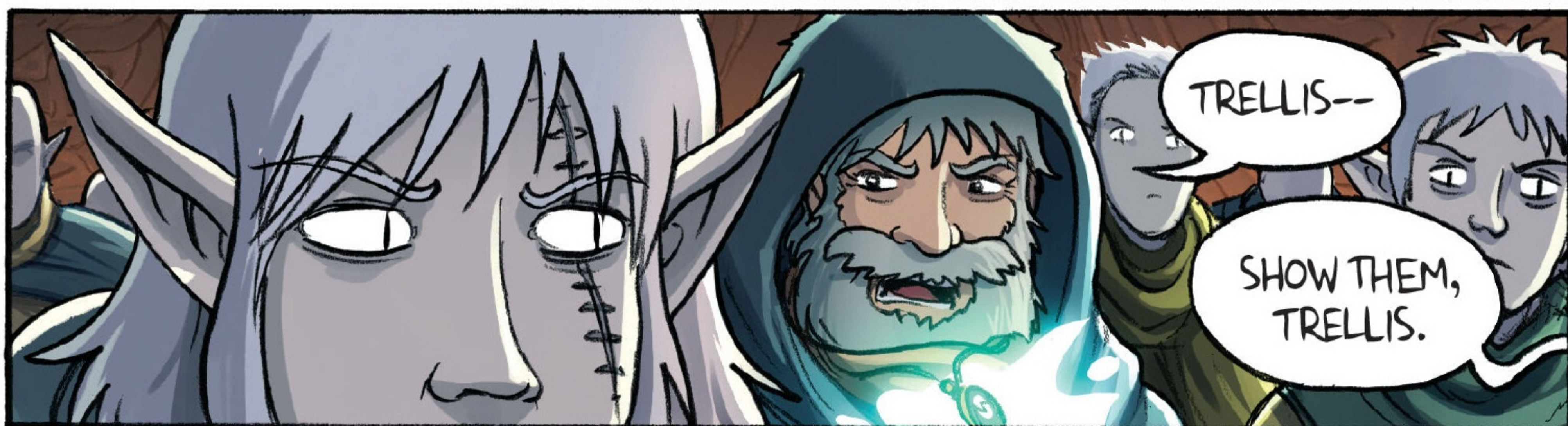
THE FALSE KING
IS ONLY A SYMPTOM
OF BIGGER PROBLEMS
IN ALLEDIA.

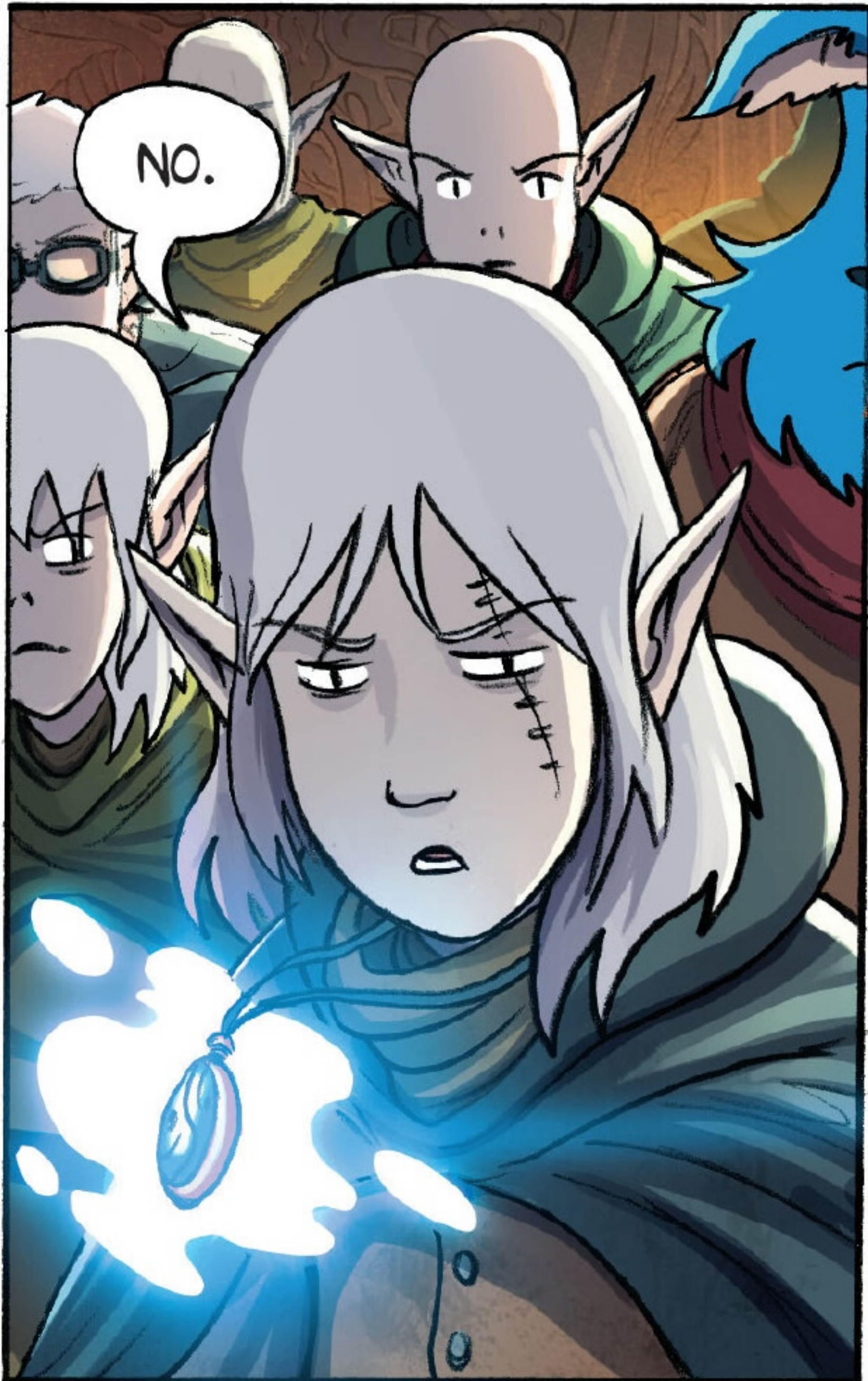












NO.



I'M SORRY,
GABILAN.

I'M NOT
WHO YOU
THINK I AM.

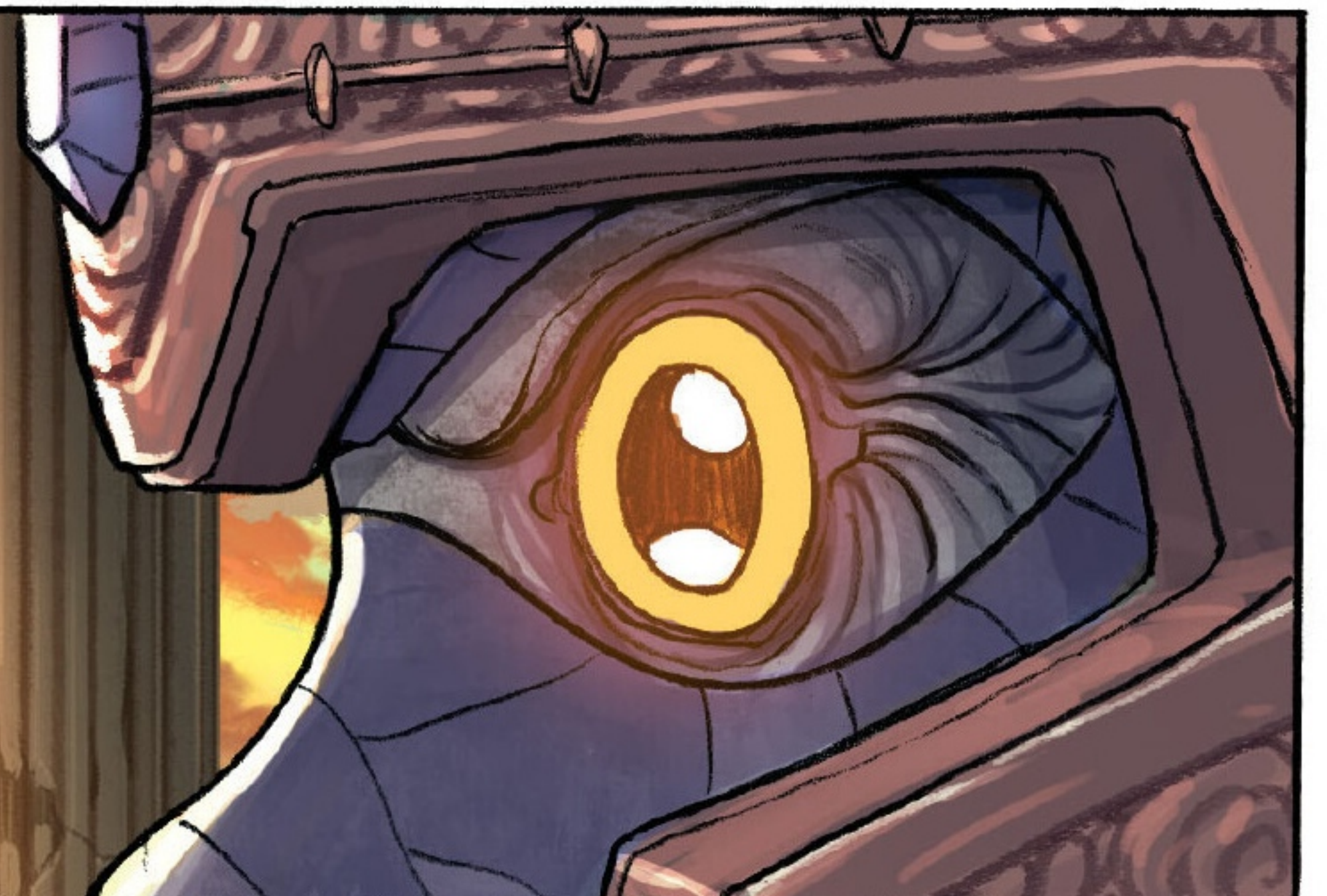


YOU ARE NOW
THE KING.



I DIDN'T GET A
CHANCE TO THANK
YOU FOR MY LOST
MEMORY.

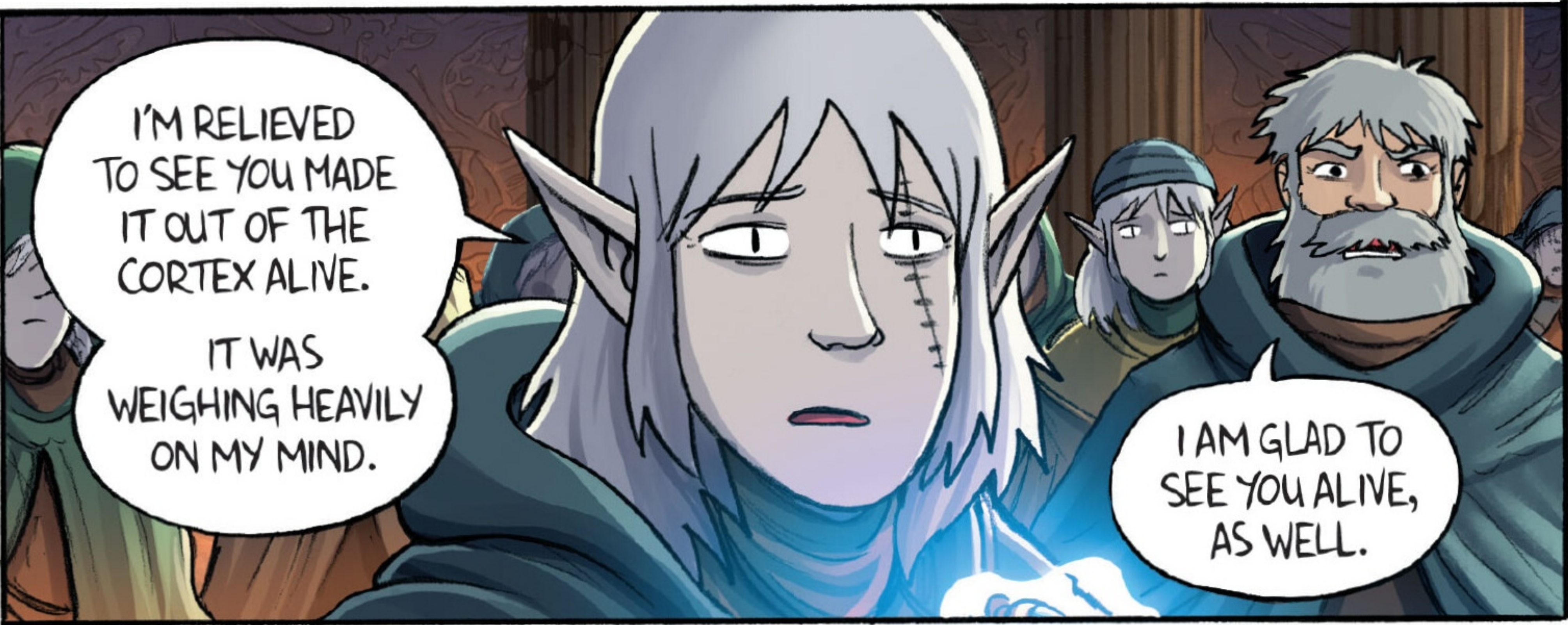
IT HELPED
REMIND ME WHO
I AM.

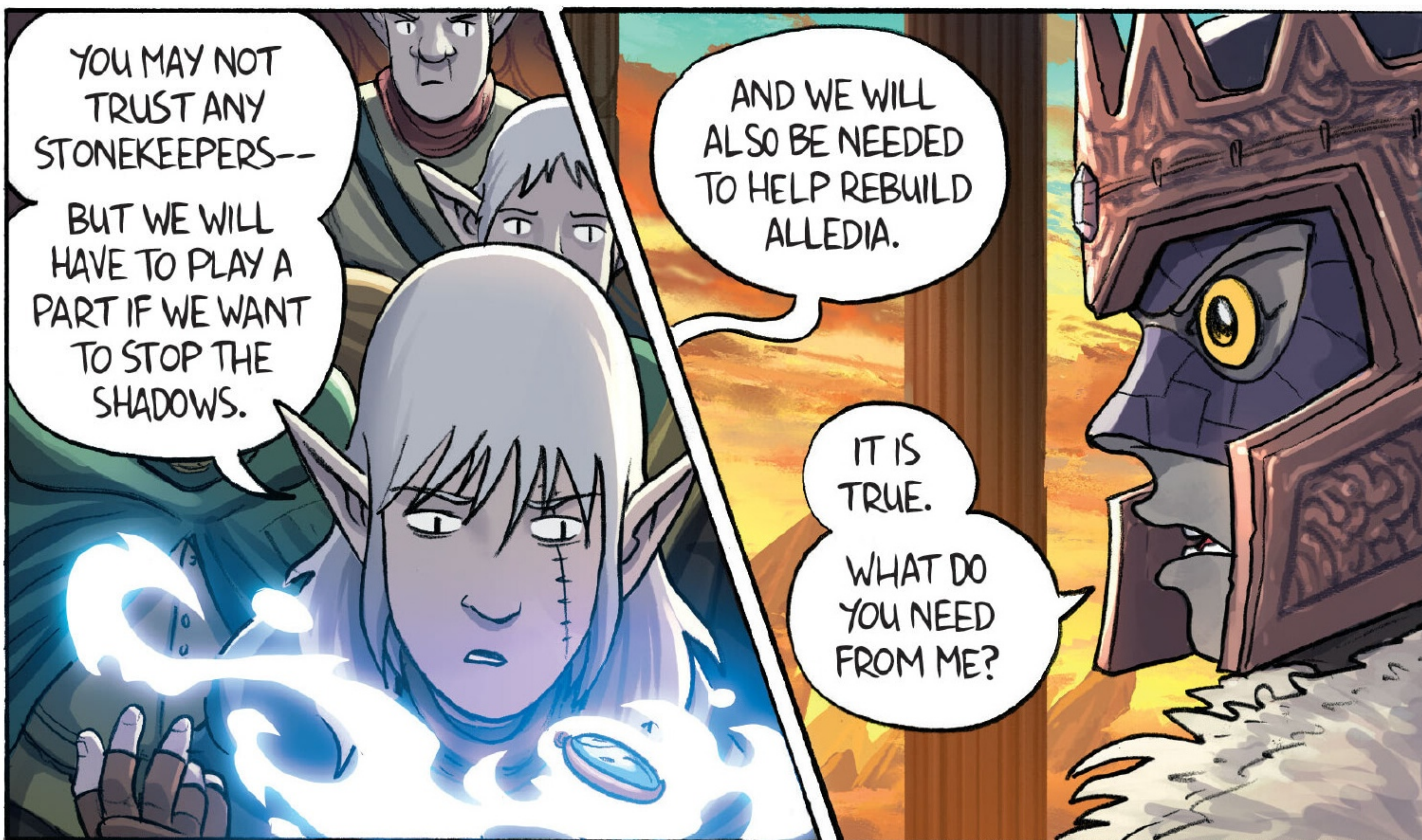


SIR,
NO!

LET US KNOW
WHAT WE CAN DO
TO SERVE THE
KINGDOM OF
ELVES.

I WILL OFFER
ASSISTANCE WHERE
I CAN.

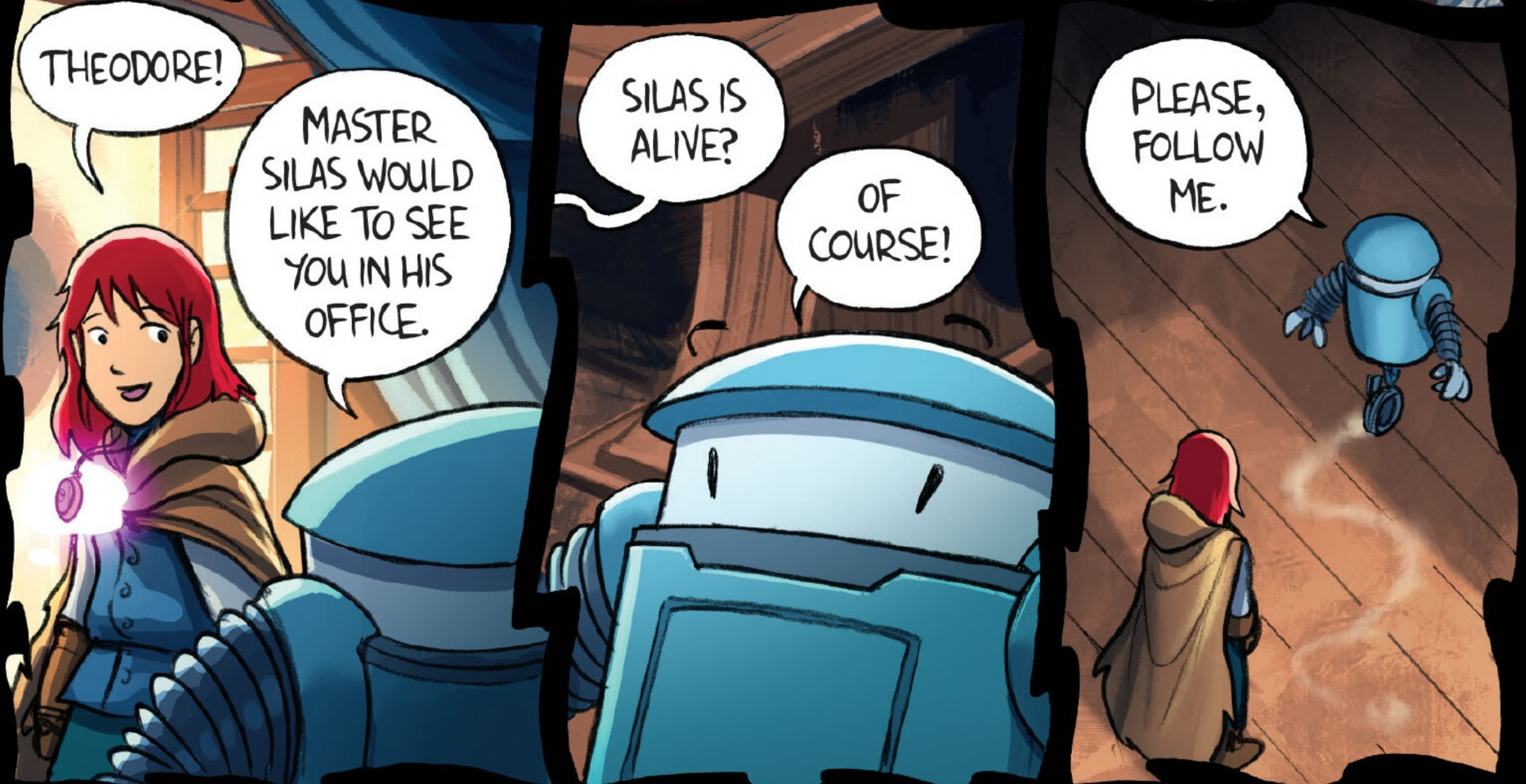
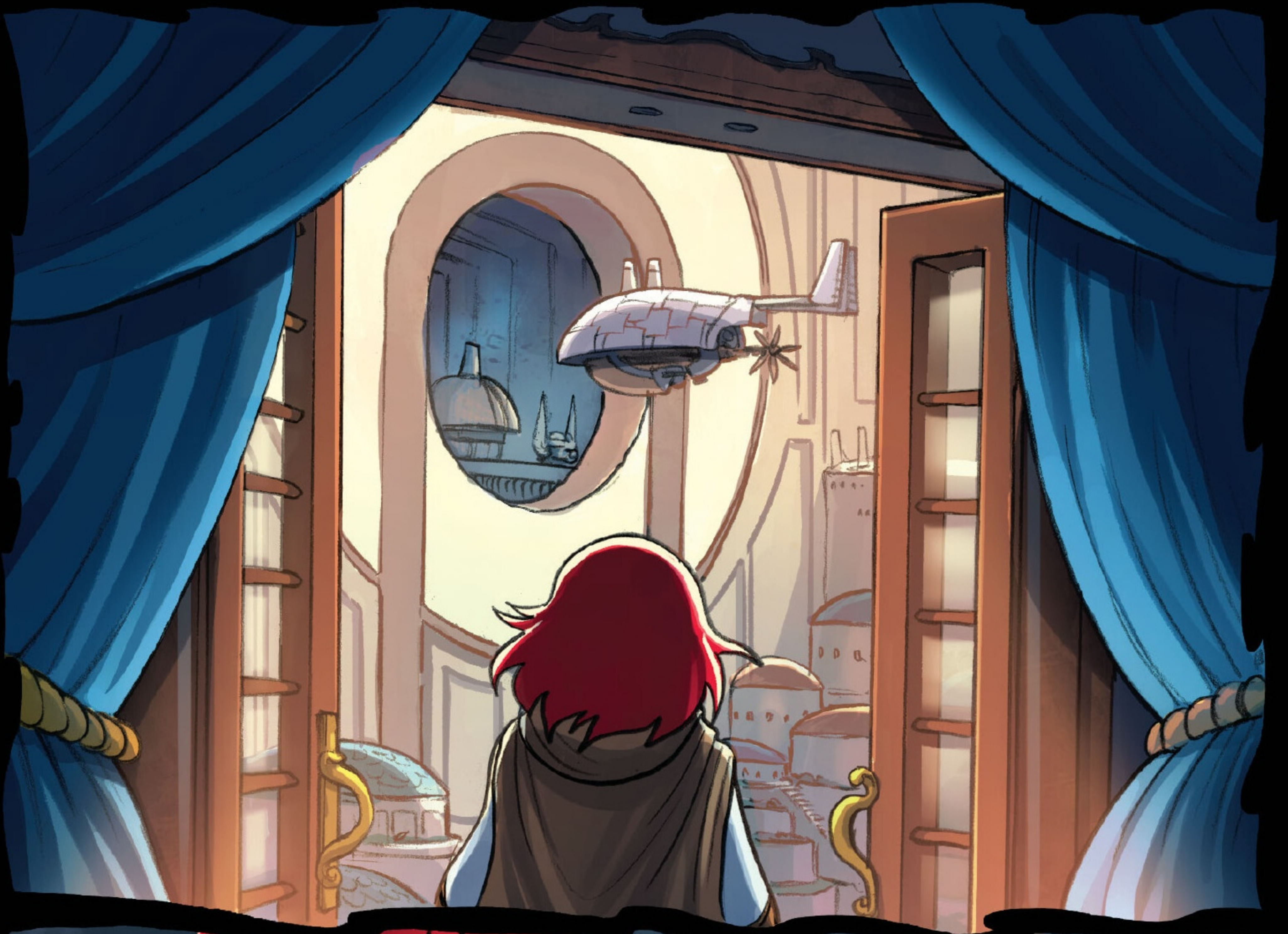


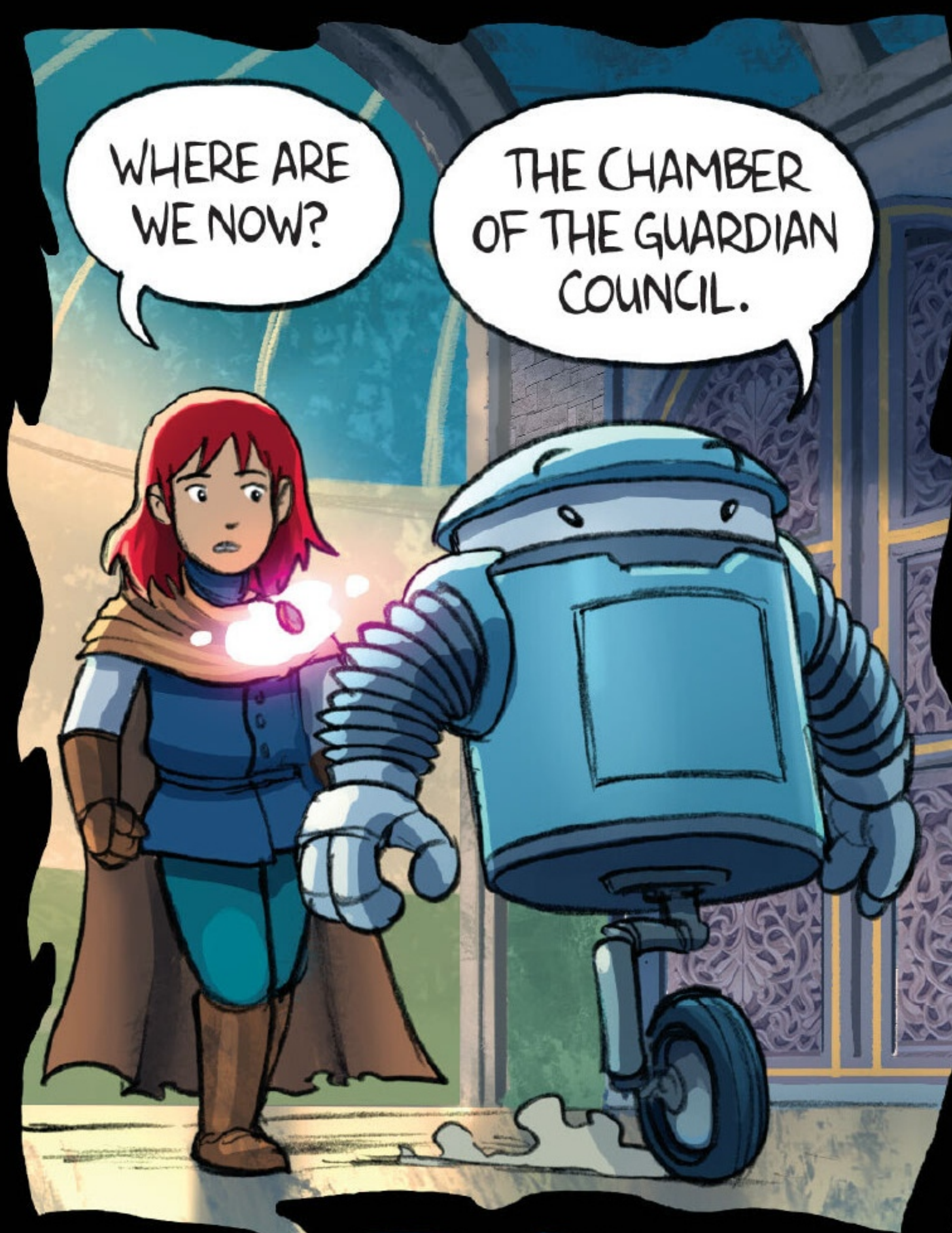


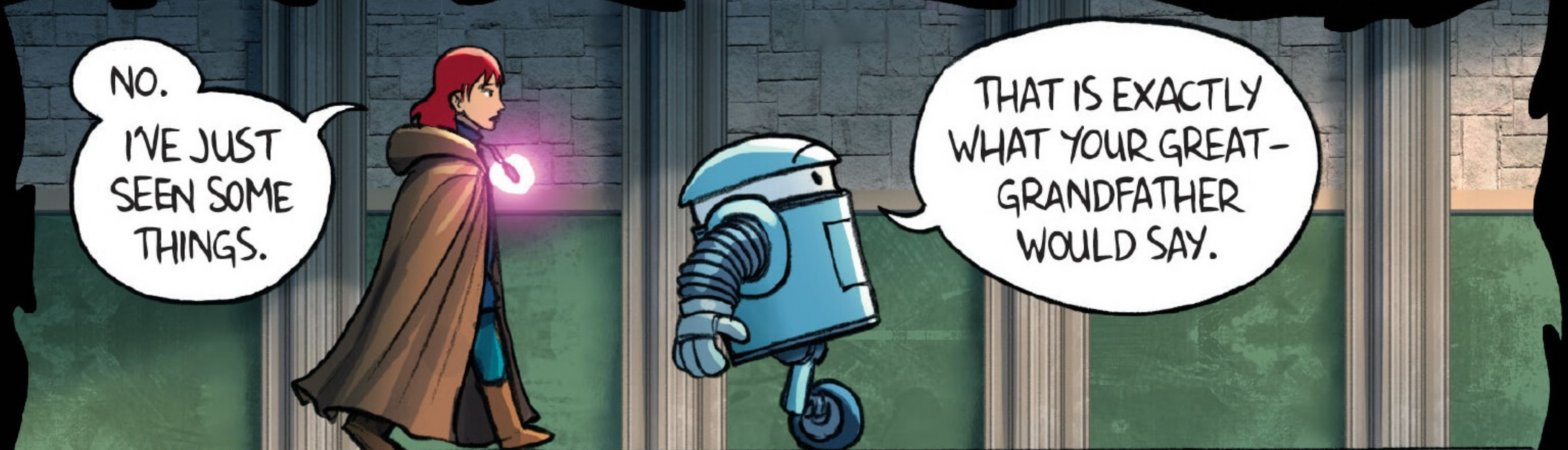
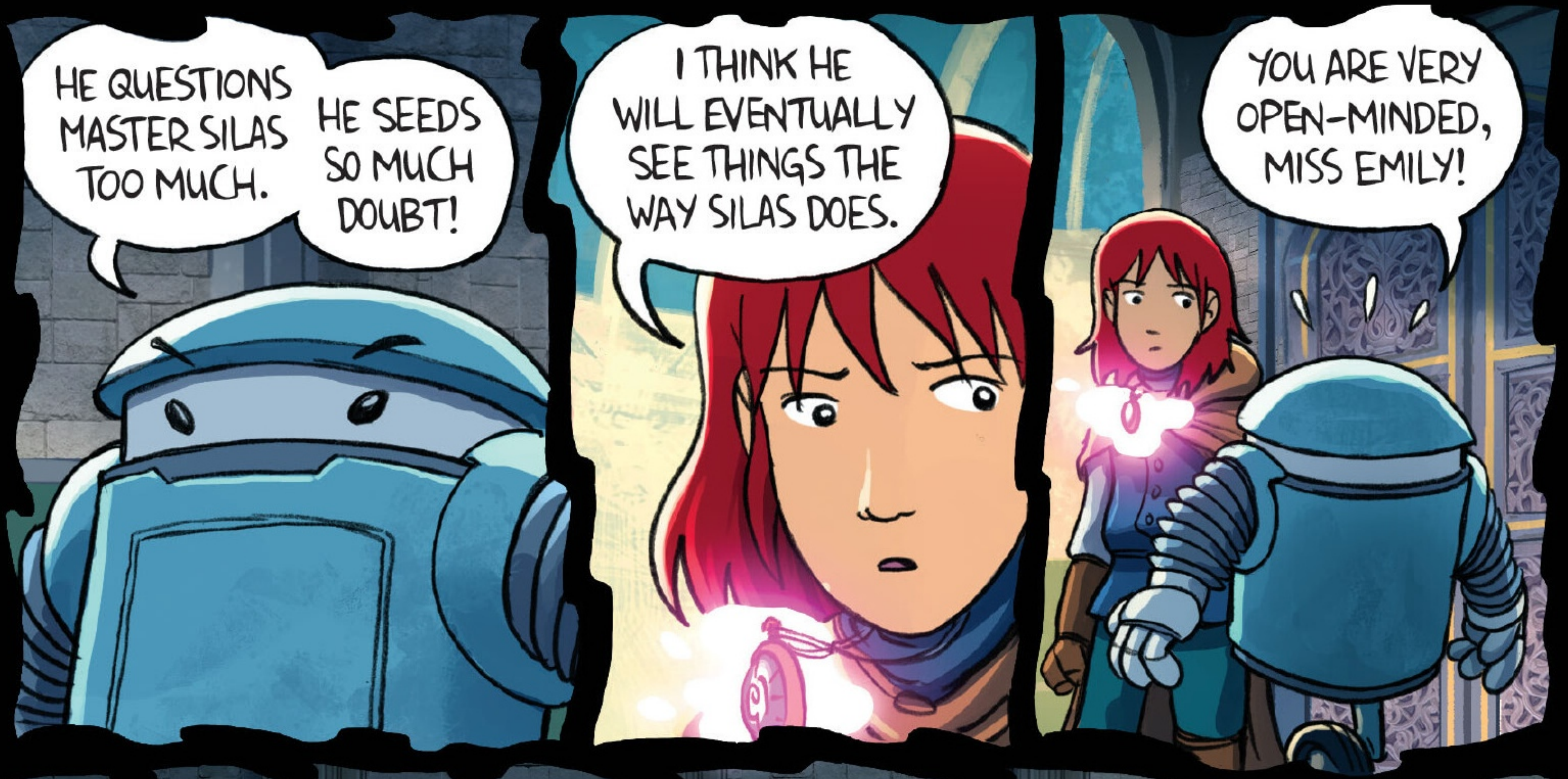


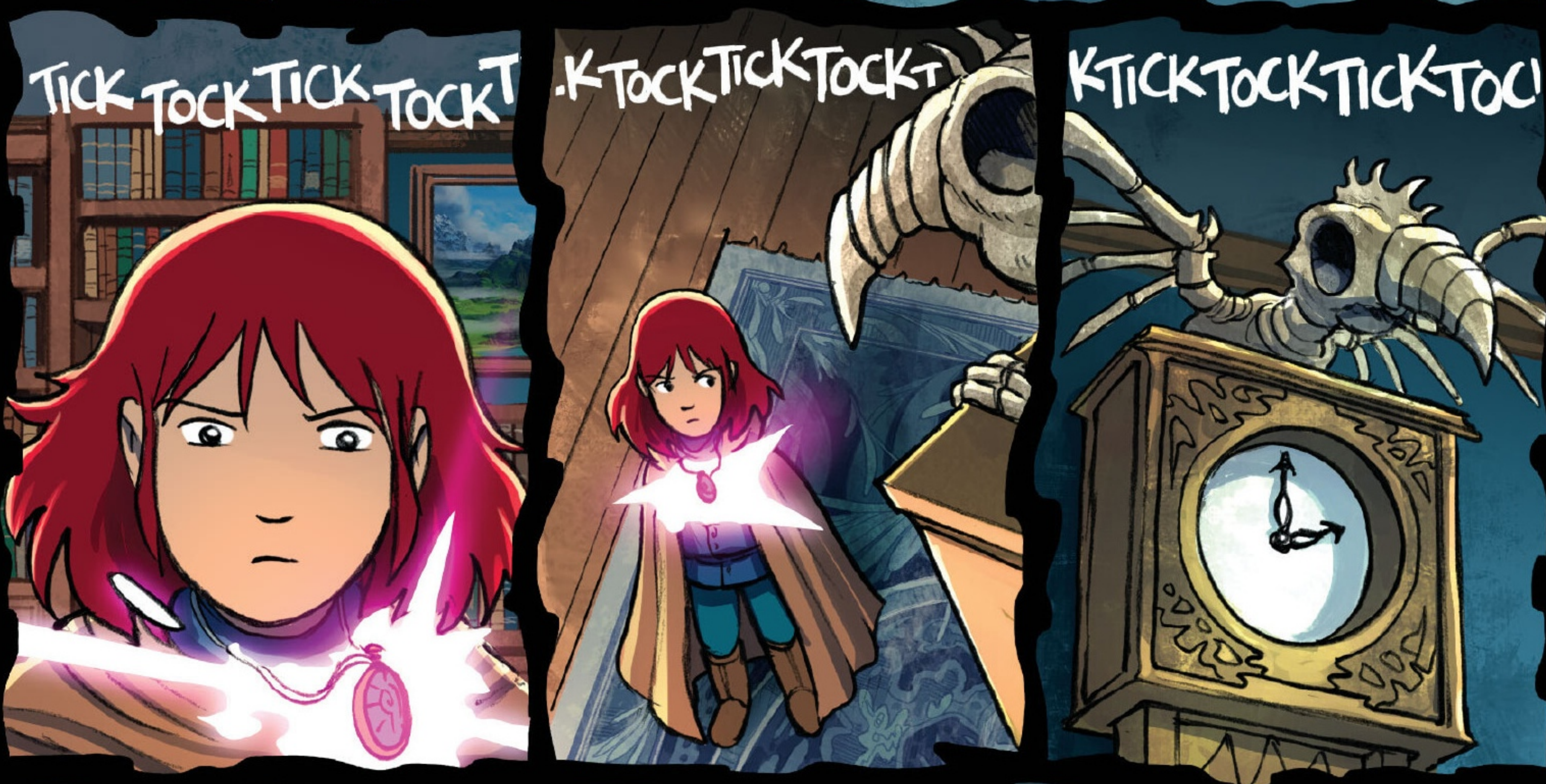


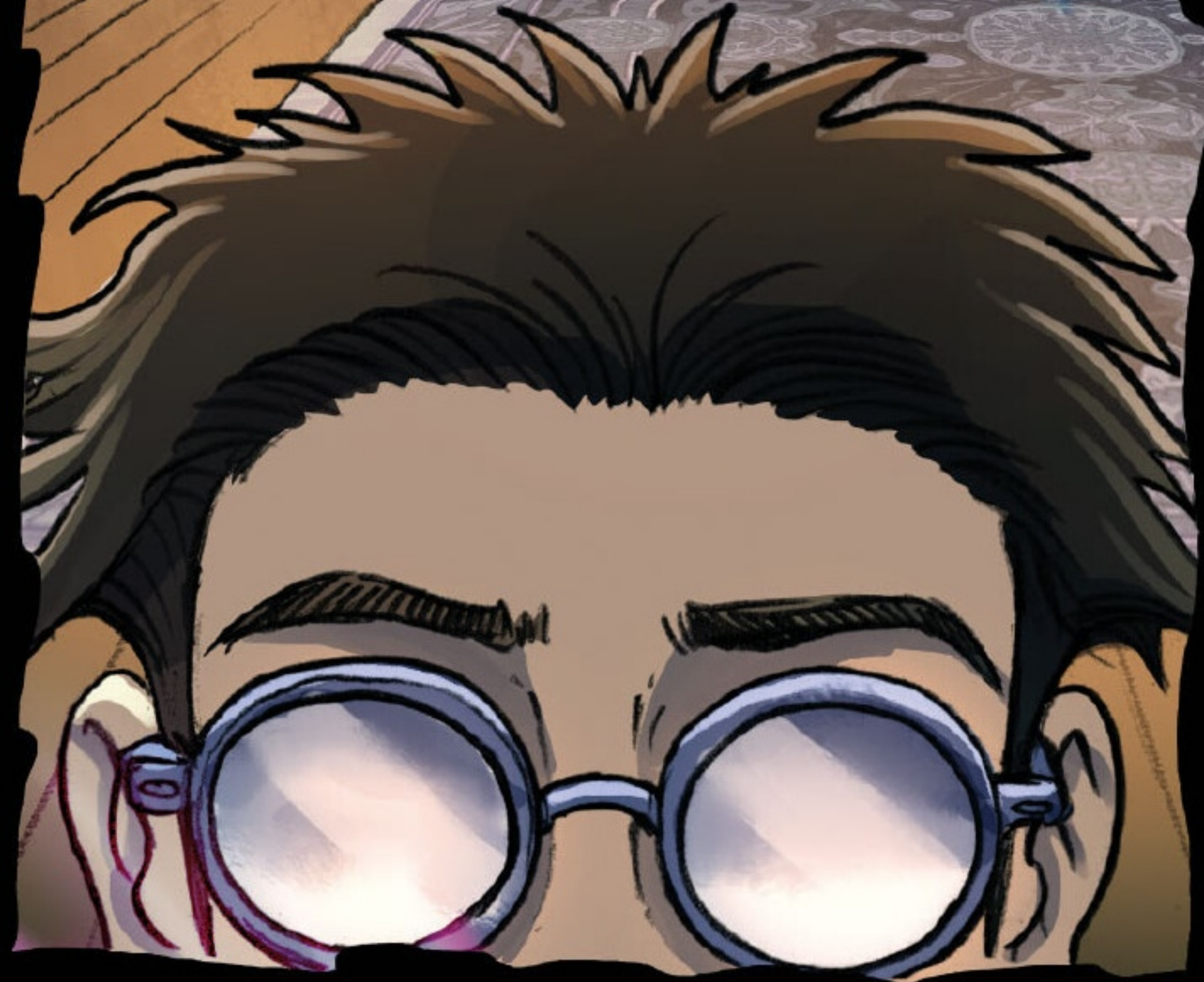
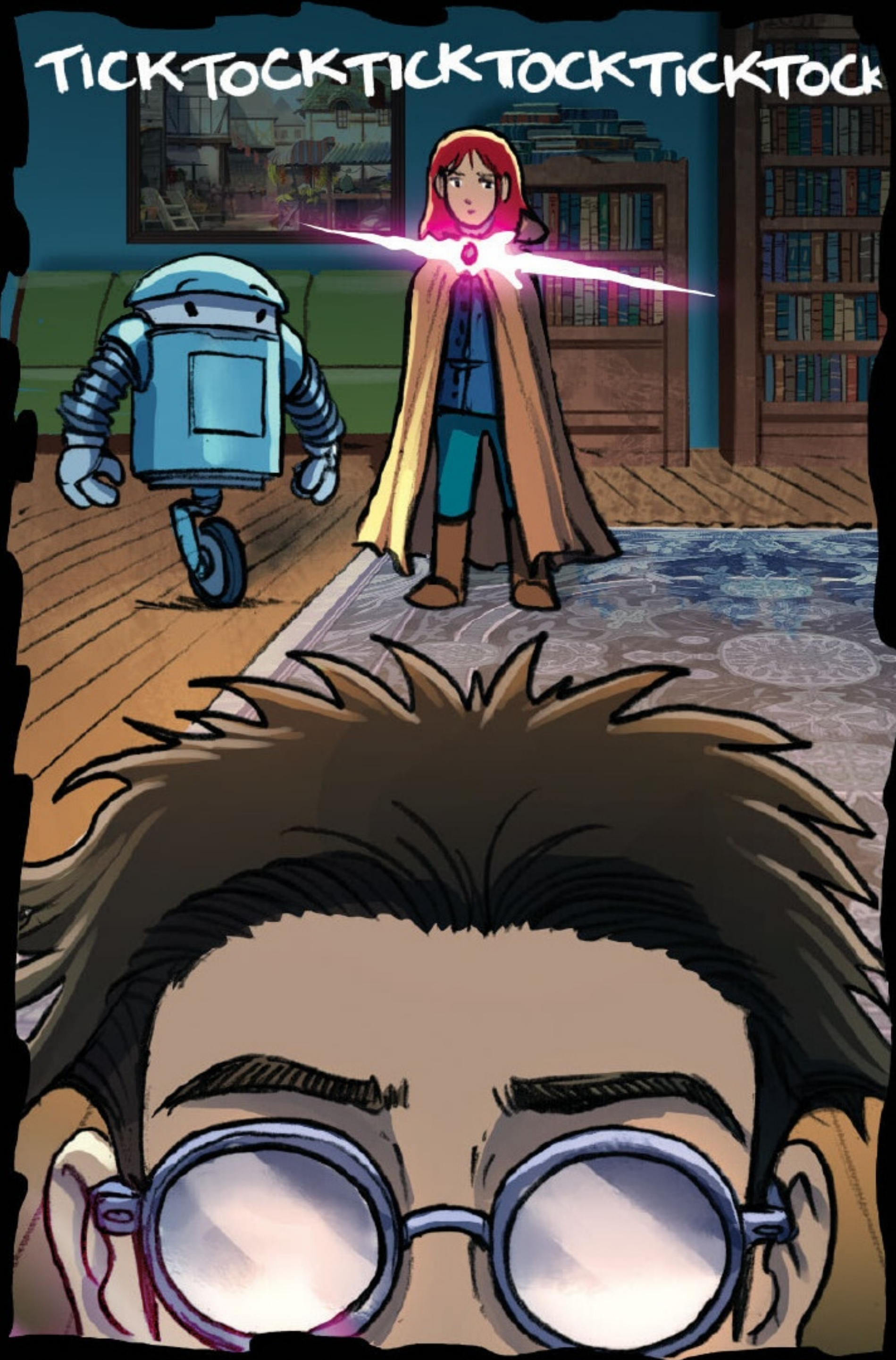


















I WANTED TO
SHOW YOU HOW
THESE STONES
ORIGINATED.



HOW MANY
TIMES DO YOU
BELIEVE YOU CAN
FOOL ME, IKOL?



STOP HIDING
BEHIND THE
MASKS.



FAIR
ENOUGH.



I KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING, IKOL.

YOU WANT ME
TO HATE MY
FAMILY.

YOU THINK
THAT I HATE
SILAS.

BUT I DON'T
HATE ANYONE.

NOT EVEN
YOU.

I HAVE ONLY
EVER WANTED TO
MAKE THINGS
BETTER.

EVERYTHING I
HAVE DONE HAS BEEN
FOR THE BENEFIT OF
ALL LIVING BEINGS.

NO.

YOU ACTED
SELFISHLY.

YOU BELIEVE YOU
KNOW WHAT'S BEST
FOR OTHERS.

WHEN YOU DON'T
EVEN KNOW HOW TO
HELP YOURSELF.



YOU SHOULD
THANK ME.



WE CAN'T CHANGE
OUR REALITY TO SUIT
OUR DREAMS, IKOL.



NO MATTER
HOW MUCH WE
BELIEVE WE
ARE RIGHT.

AND IF YOU
WISH FOR OTHERS
TO HELP YOU--



YOU MUST
LEARN TO LET
THEM GO.



ARE YOU
PREPARED TO
DO WHAT IS
RIGHT?

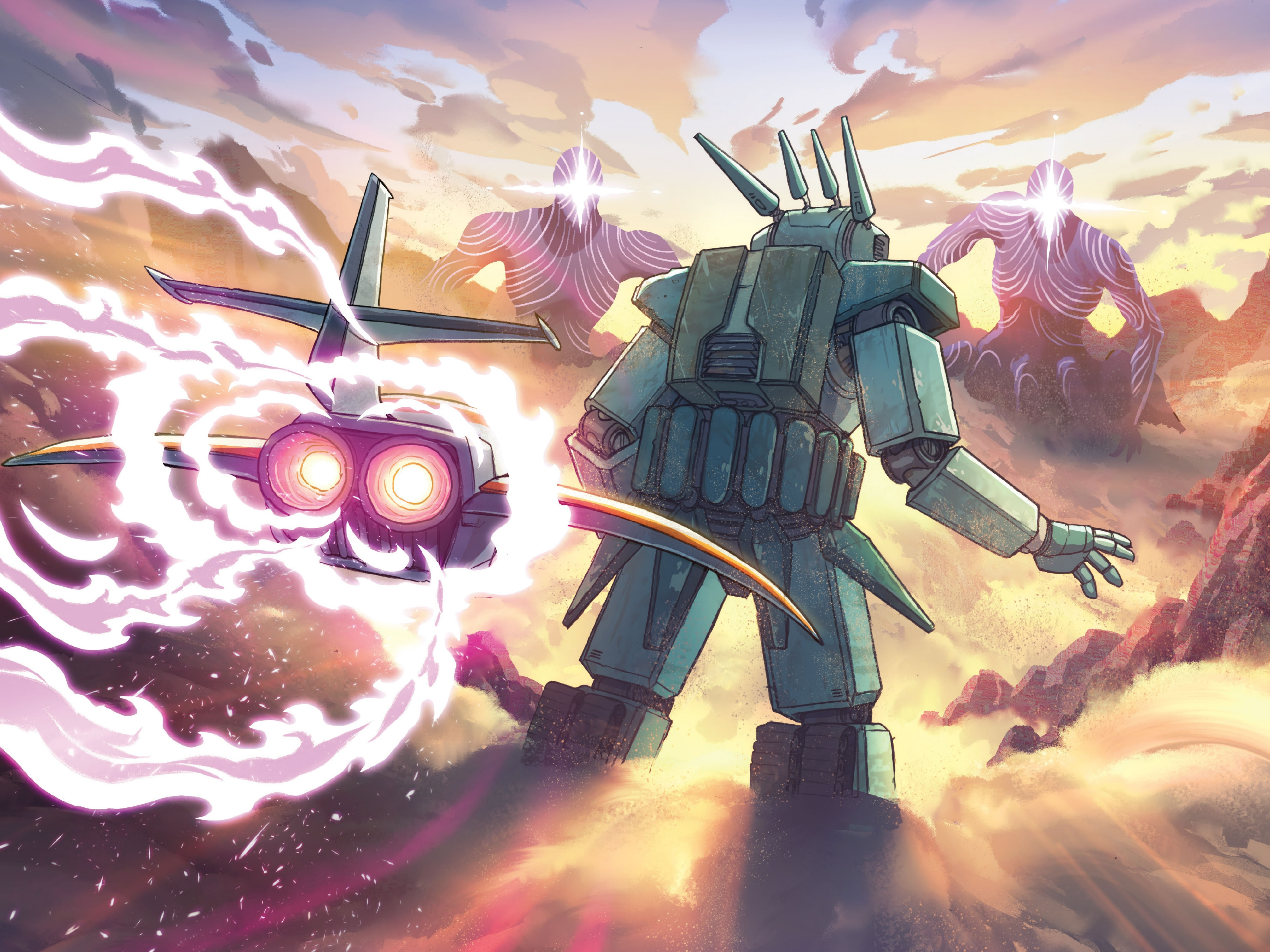
ARE YOU
PREPARED
TO LET GO?

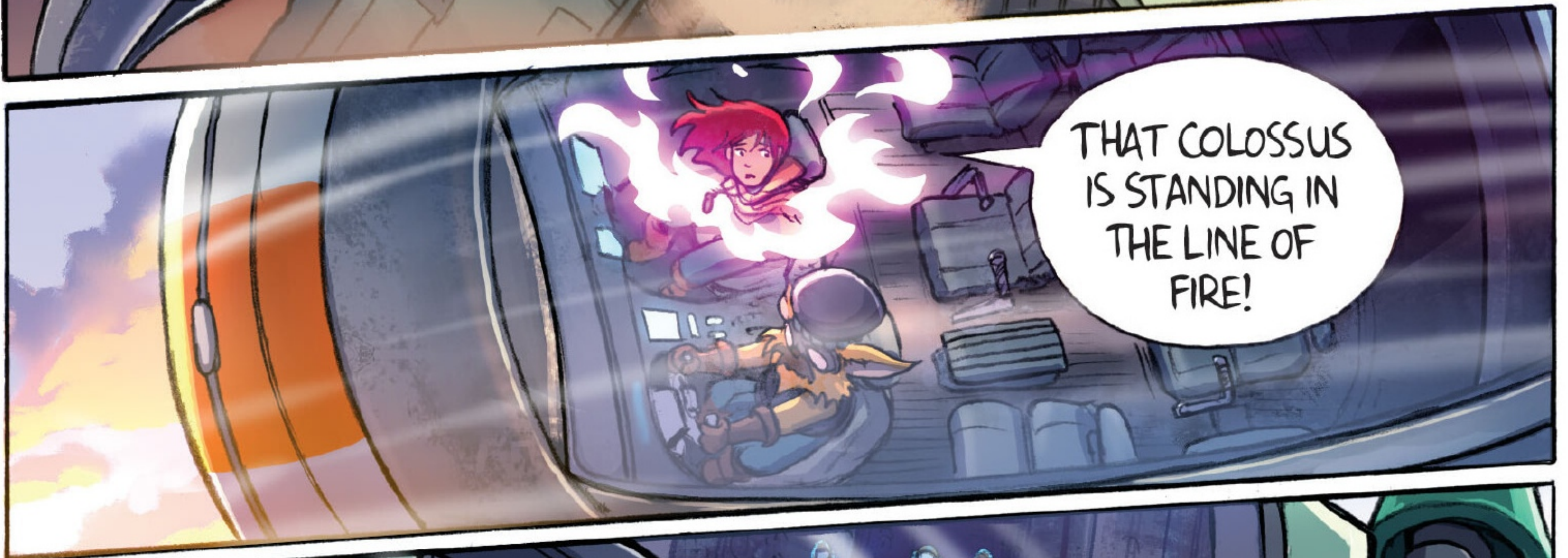
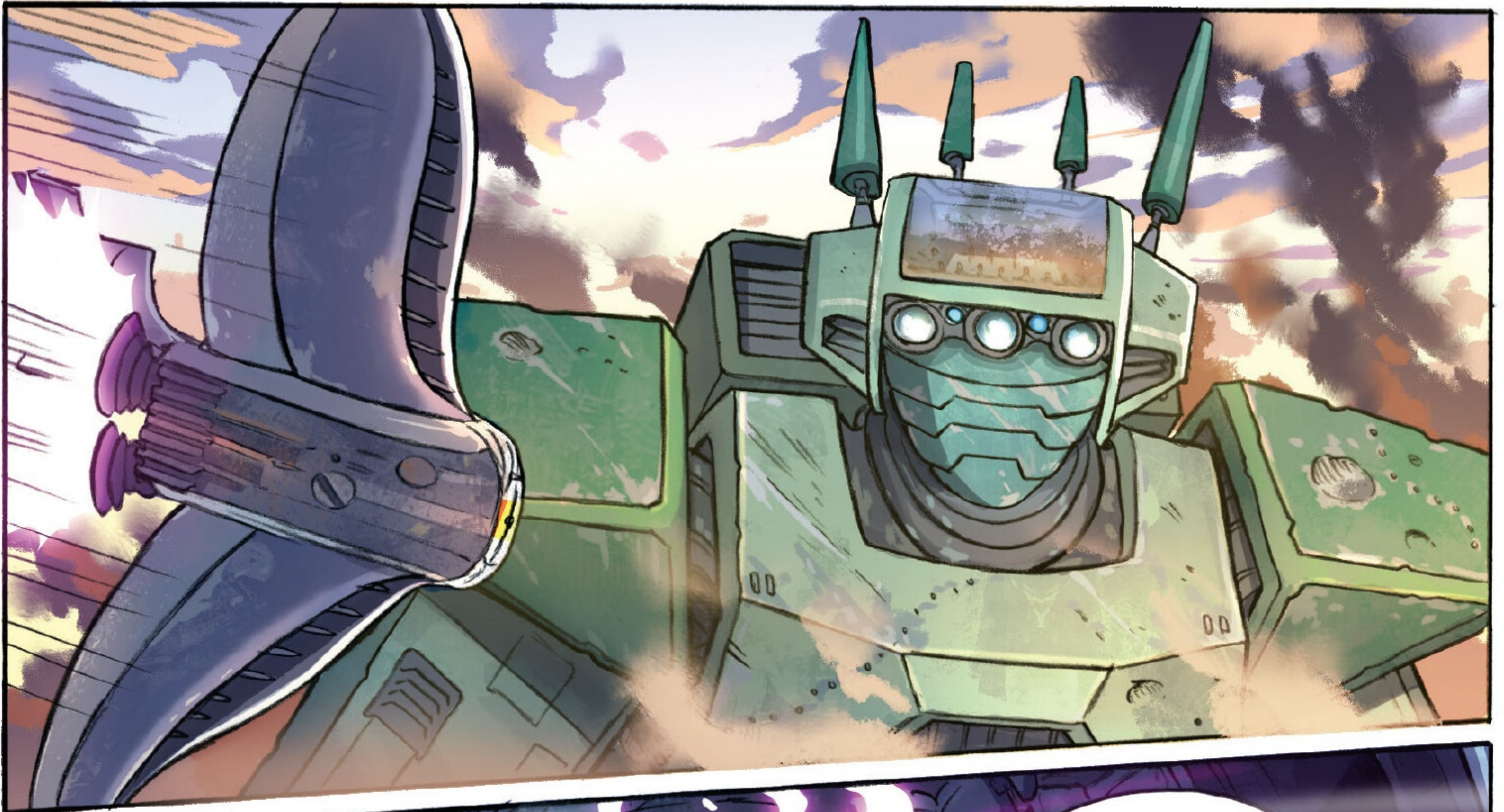
LET ME
GO, IKOL.

LET
GO.





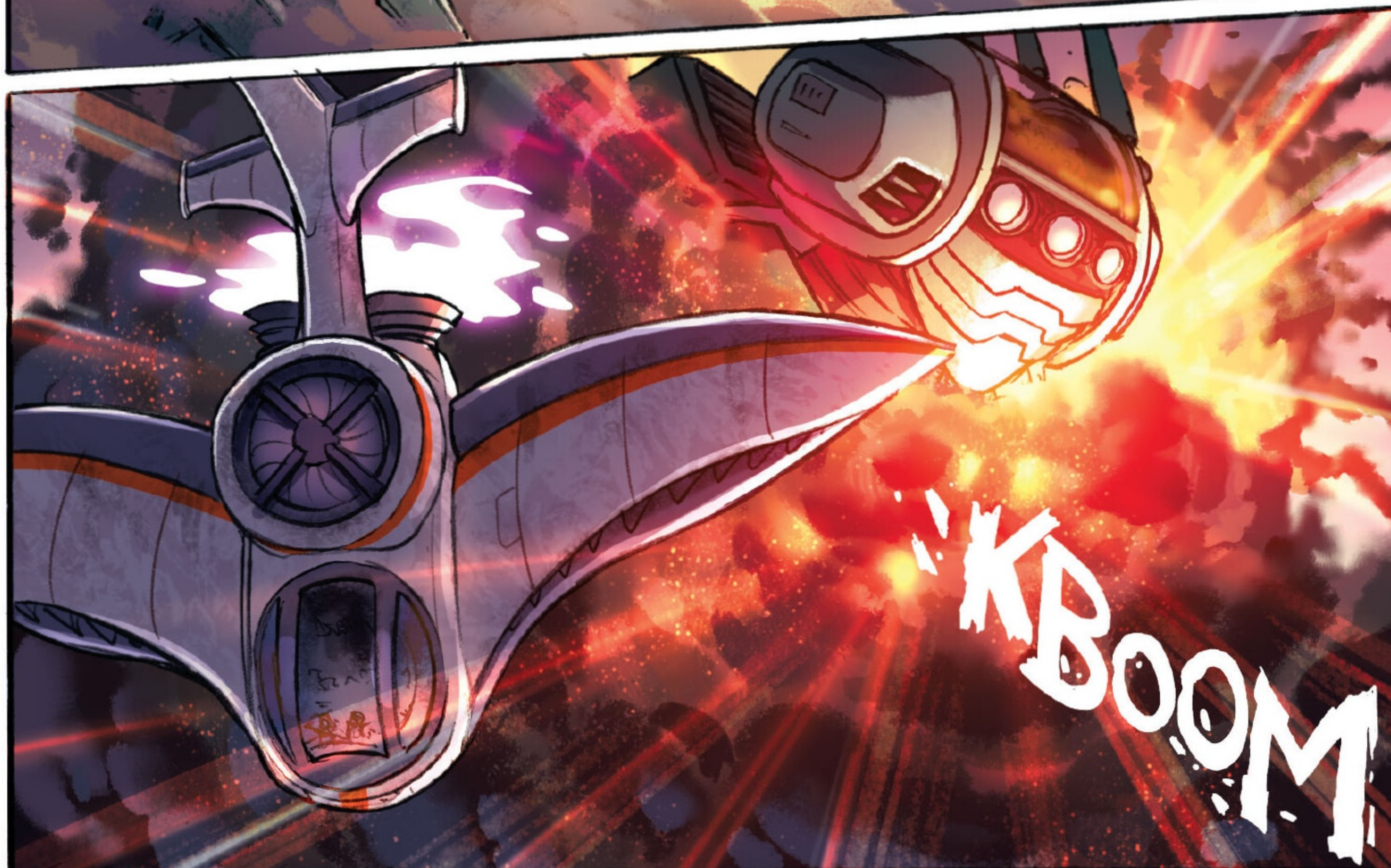


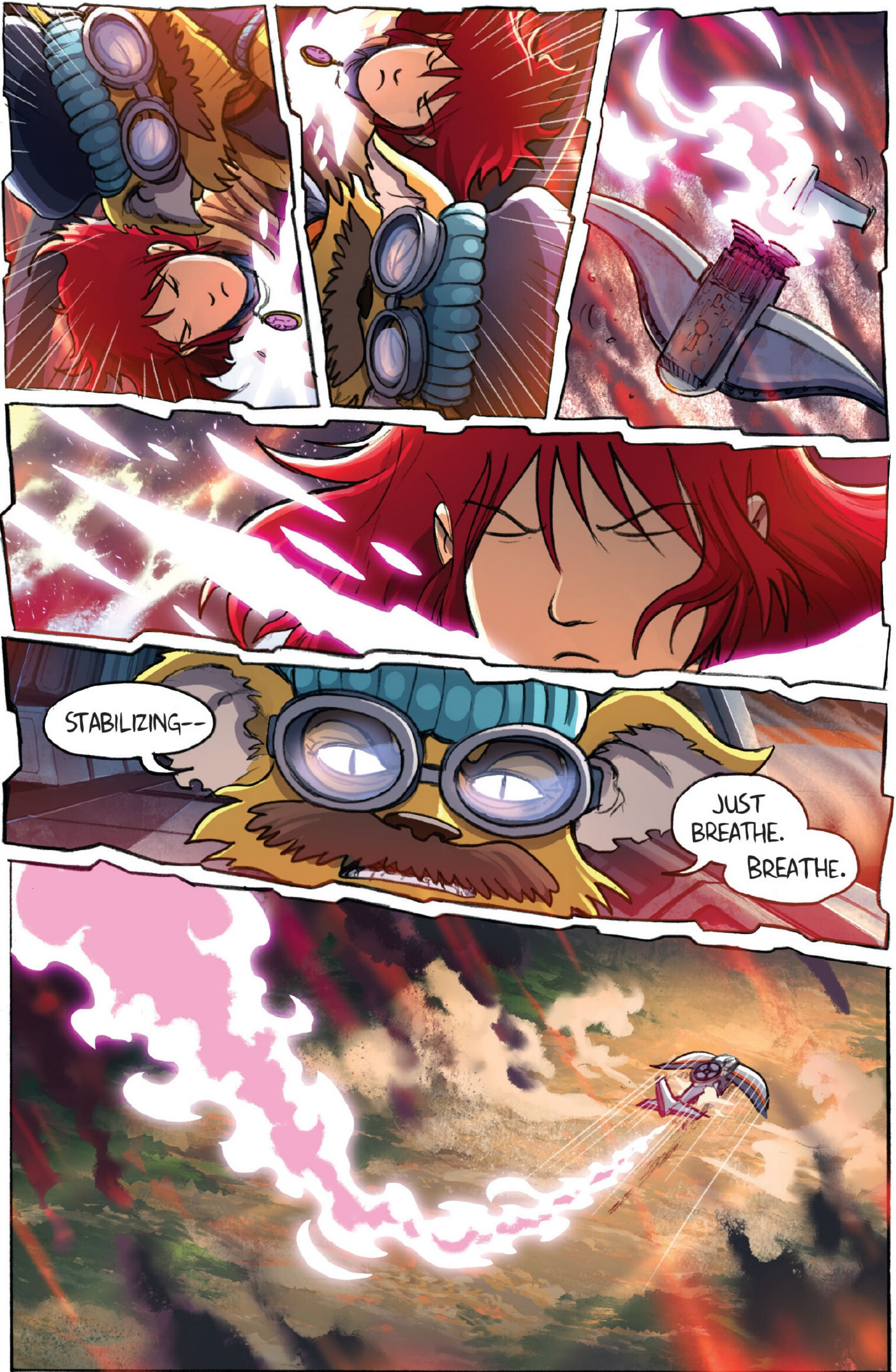


THAT COLOSSUS
IS STANDING IN
THE LINE OF
FIRE!



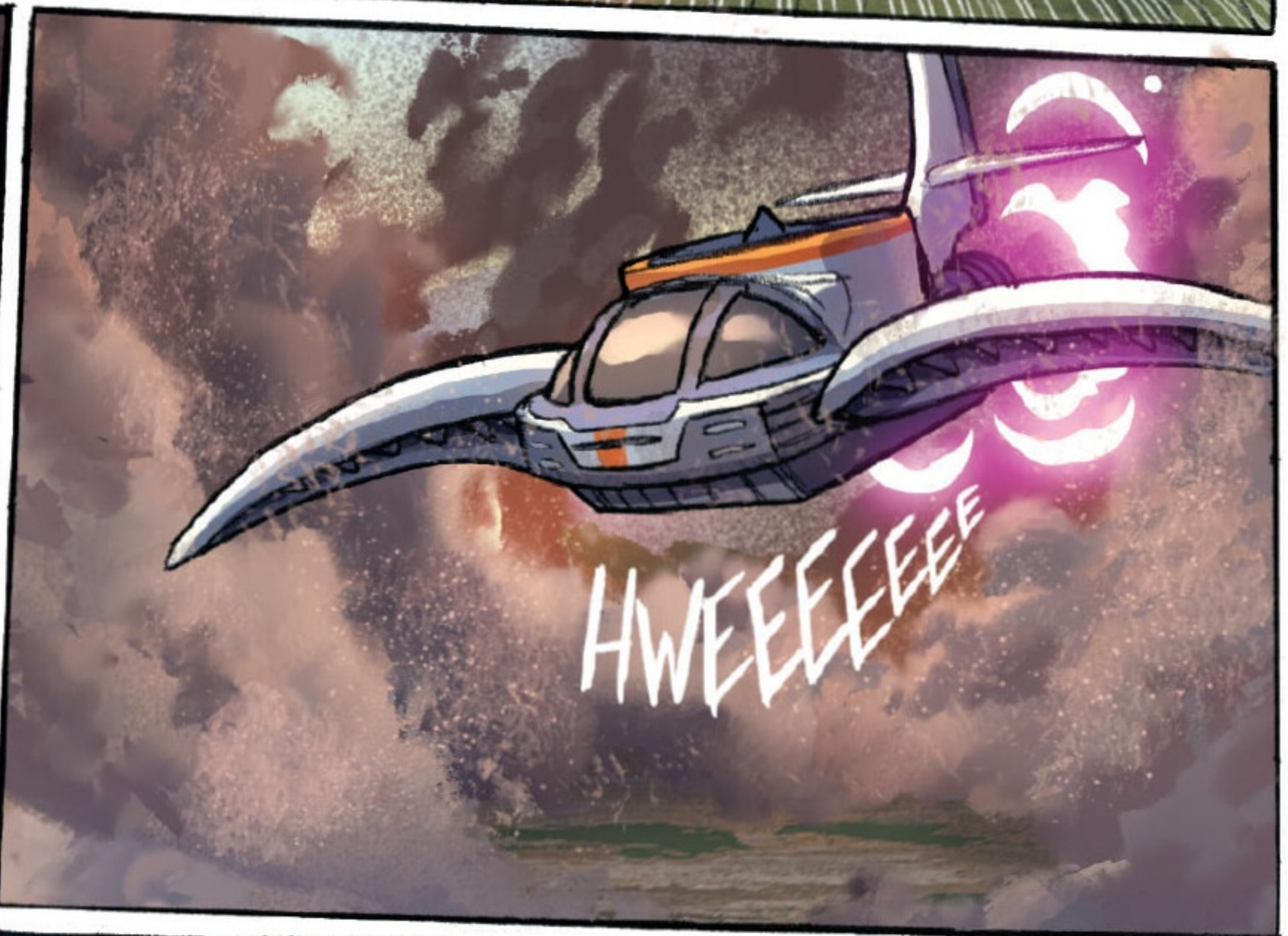
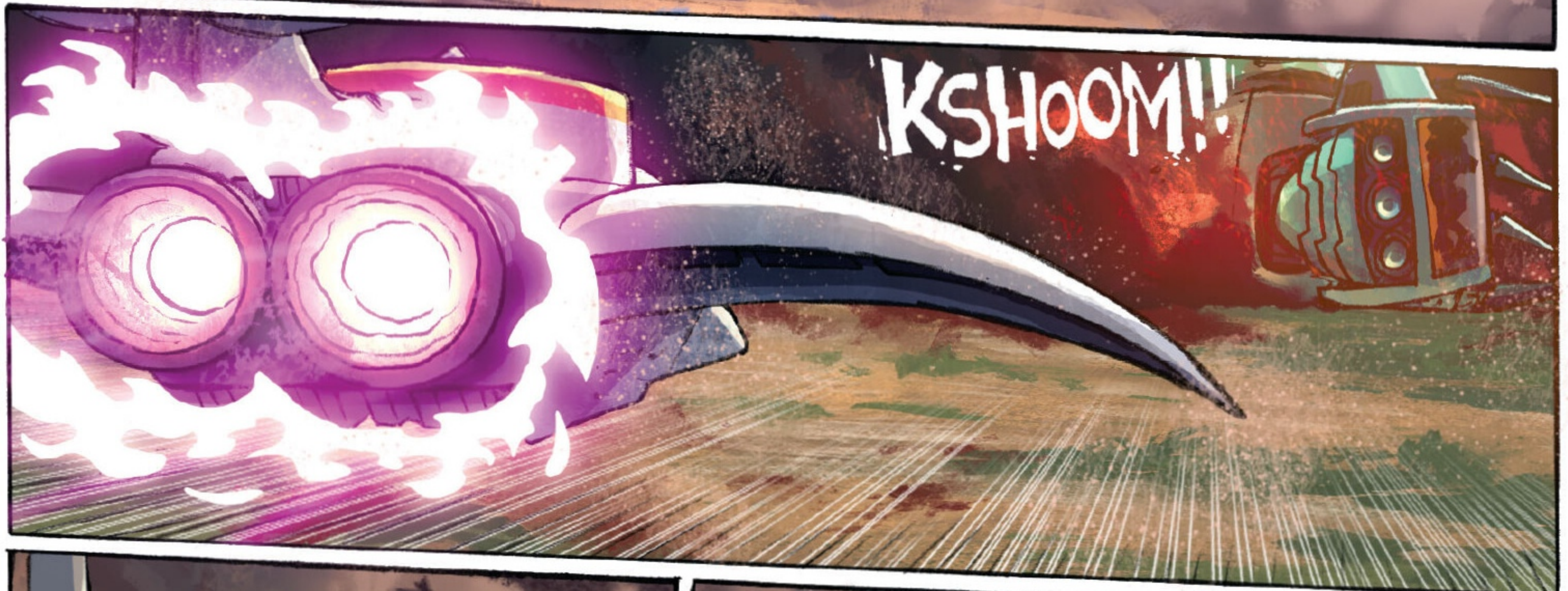
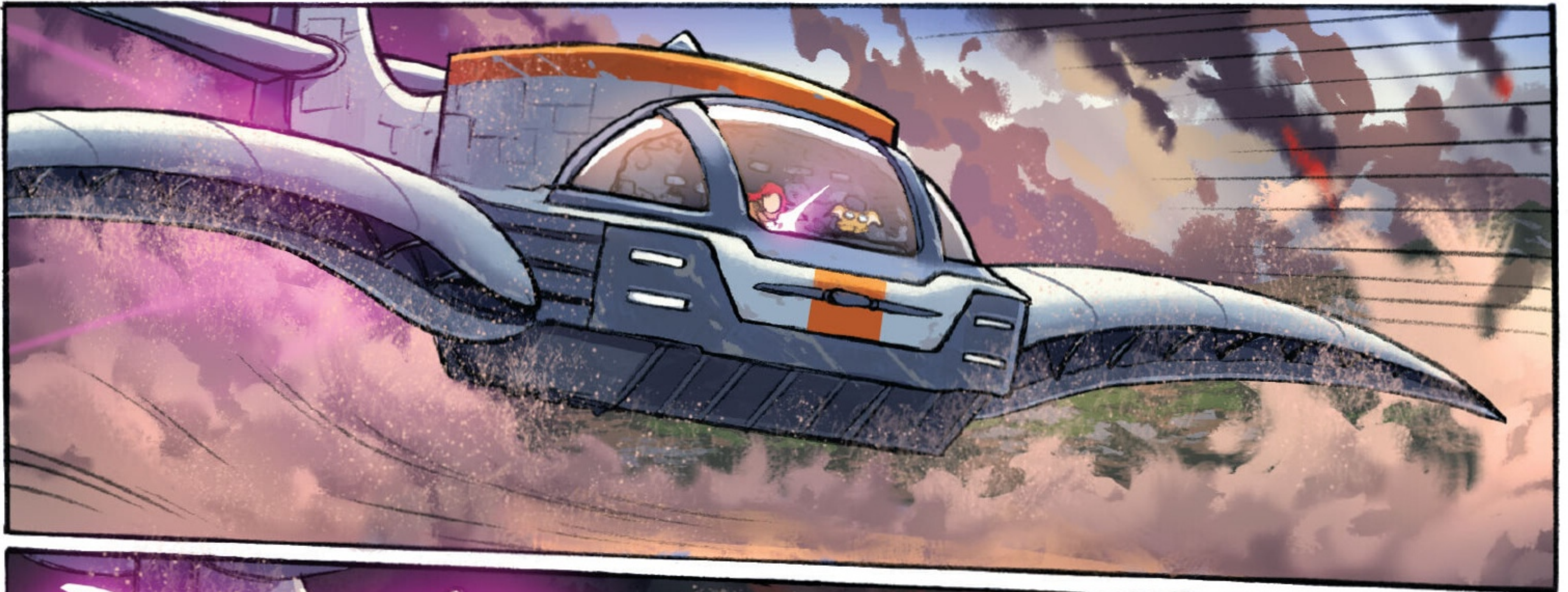
THE SOLDIERS
IN THERE--
THEY'RE
JUST KIDS.



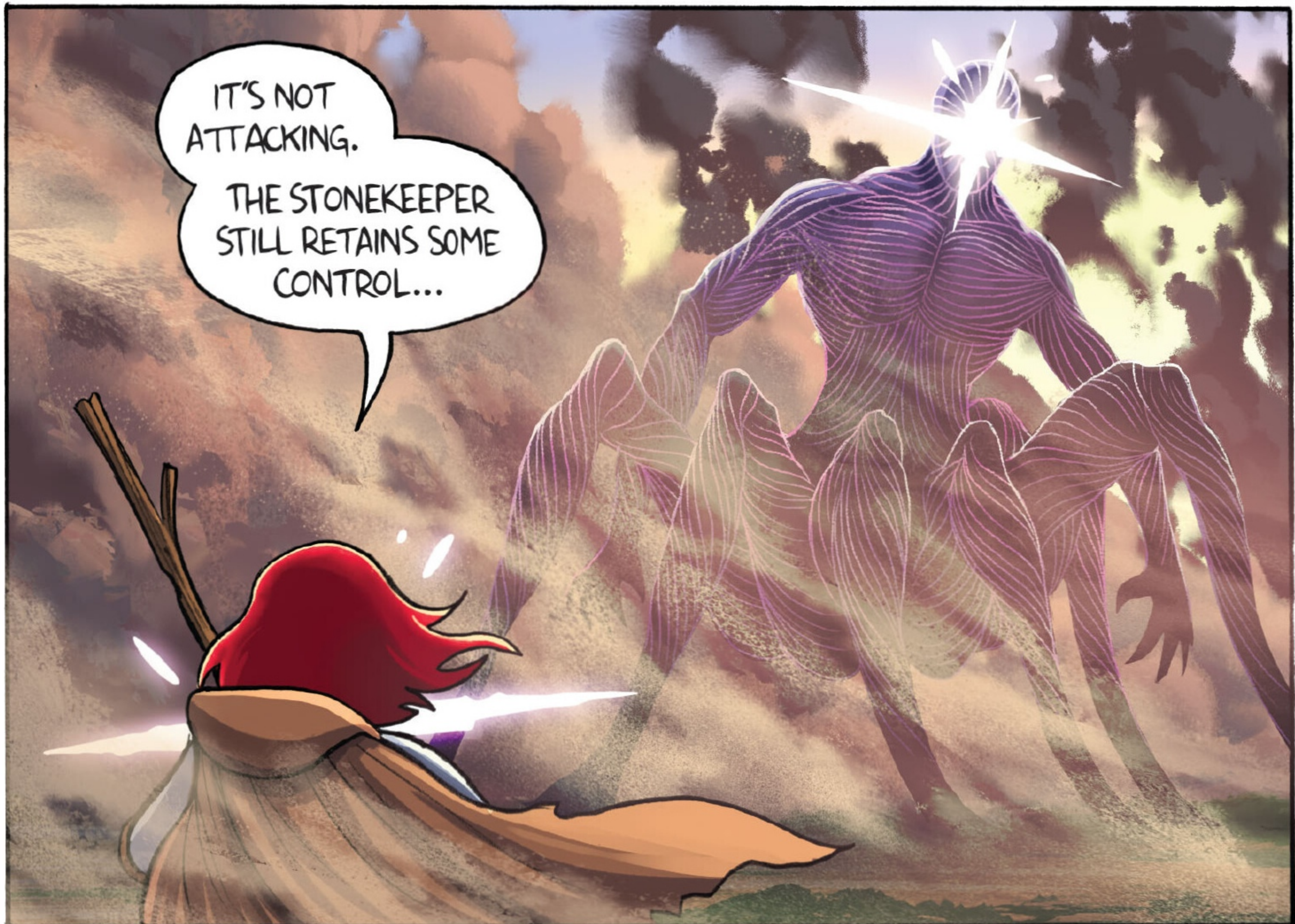


STABILIZING--

JUST
BREATHE.
BREATHE.









I DON'T
WANT TO
FIGHT.
BUT I WILL
TAKE YOU DOWN
IF I HAVE TO.



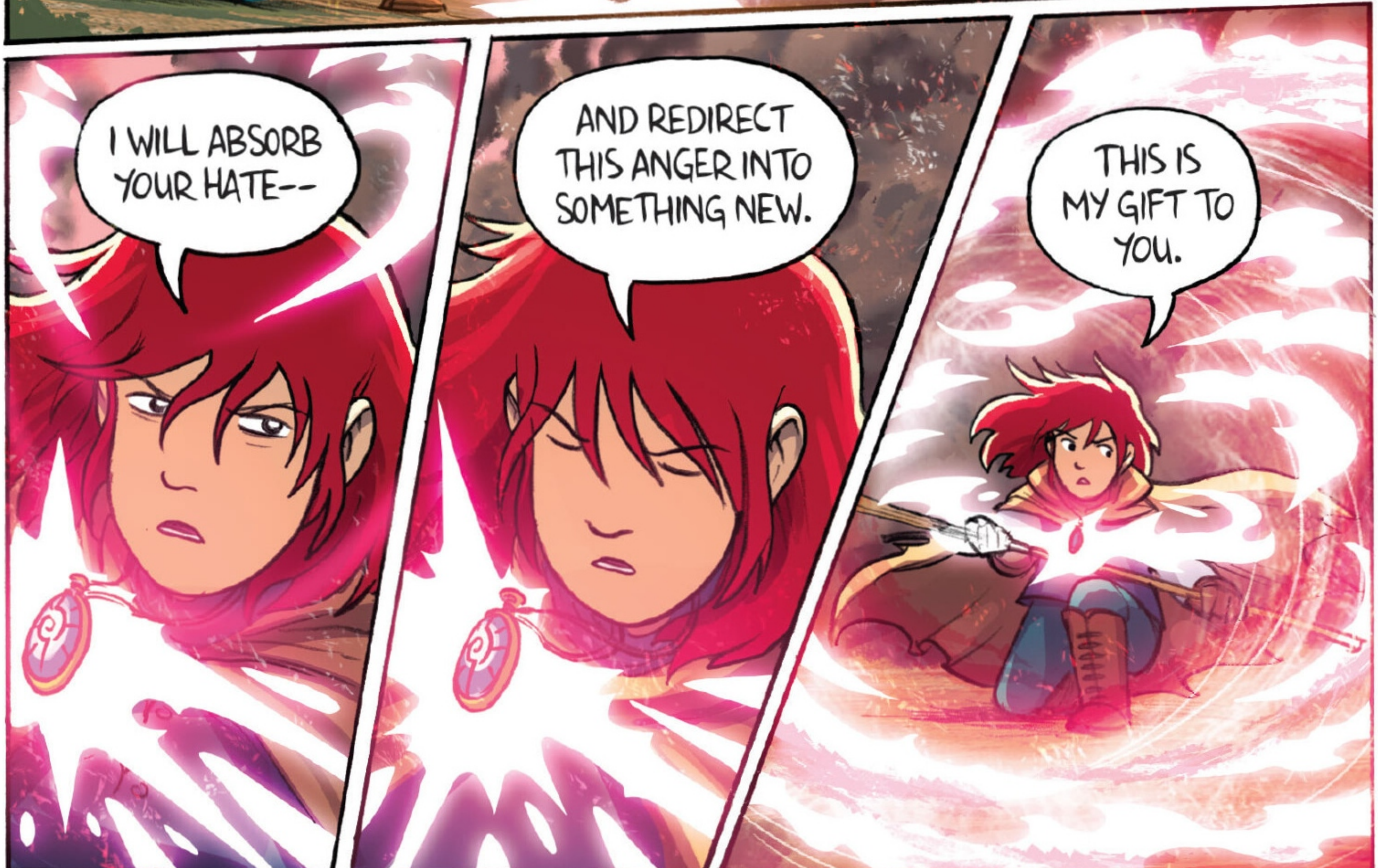
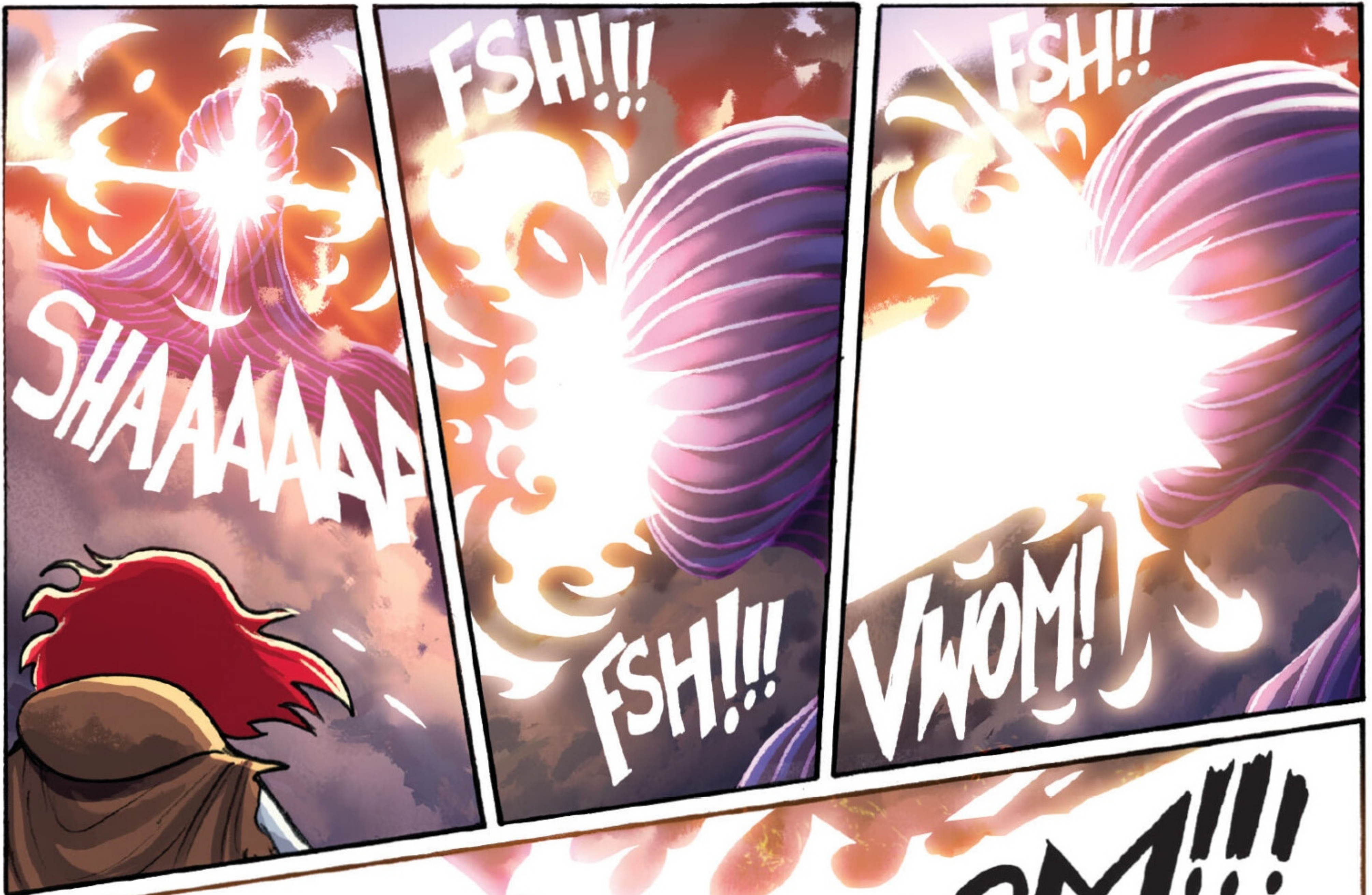
LOOK AT
THE DAMAGE THAT
YOU'VE DONE--
AND THE HURT
THAT YOU'VE
CAUSED.

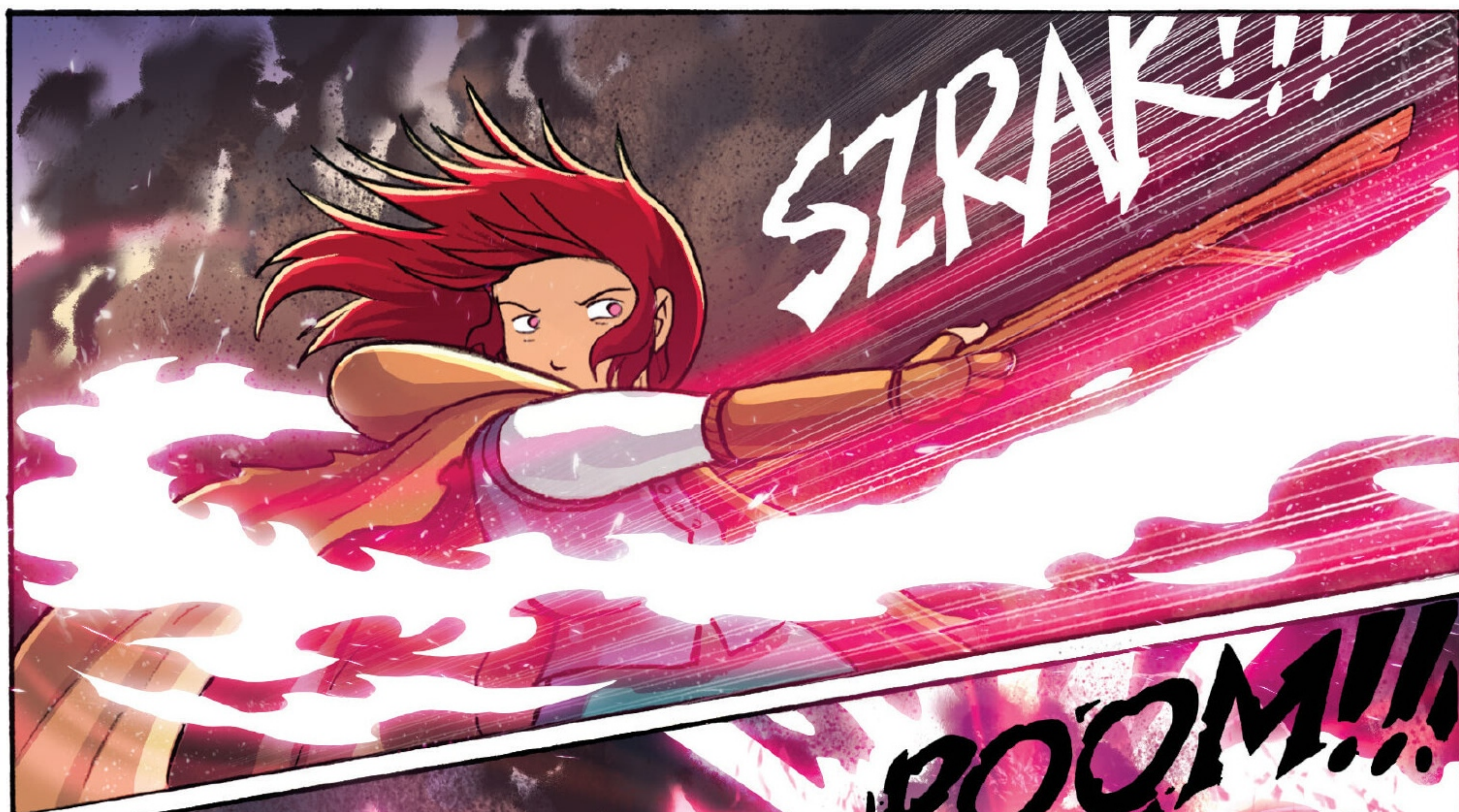


IS THIS WHO
YOU WANT TO
BE?



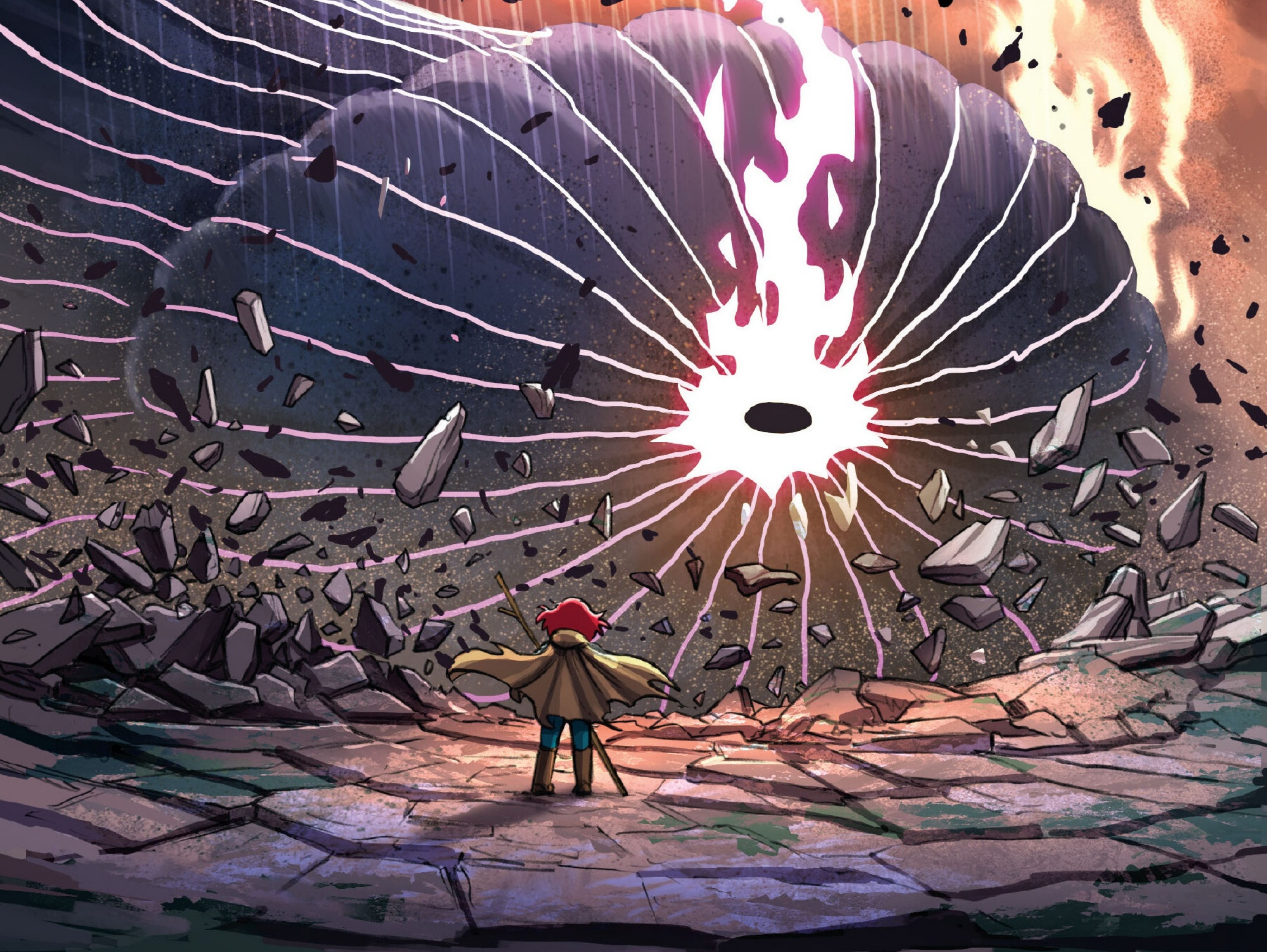
YOU COULD HAVE
CHOSEN TO BE A
BUILDER, LIKE THE
STONEKEEPERS WHO
CAME BEFORE YOU--
BUT YOU
DECIDED TO BE
A DESTROYER.

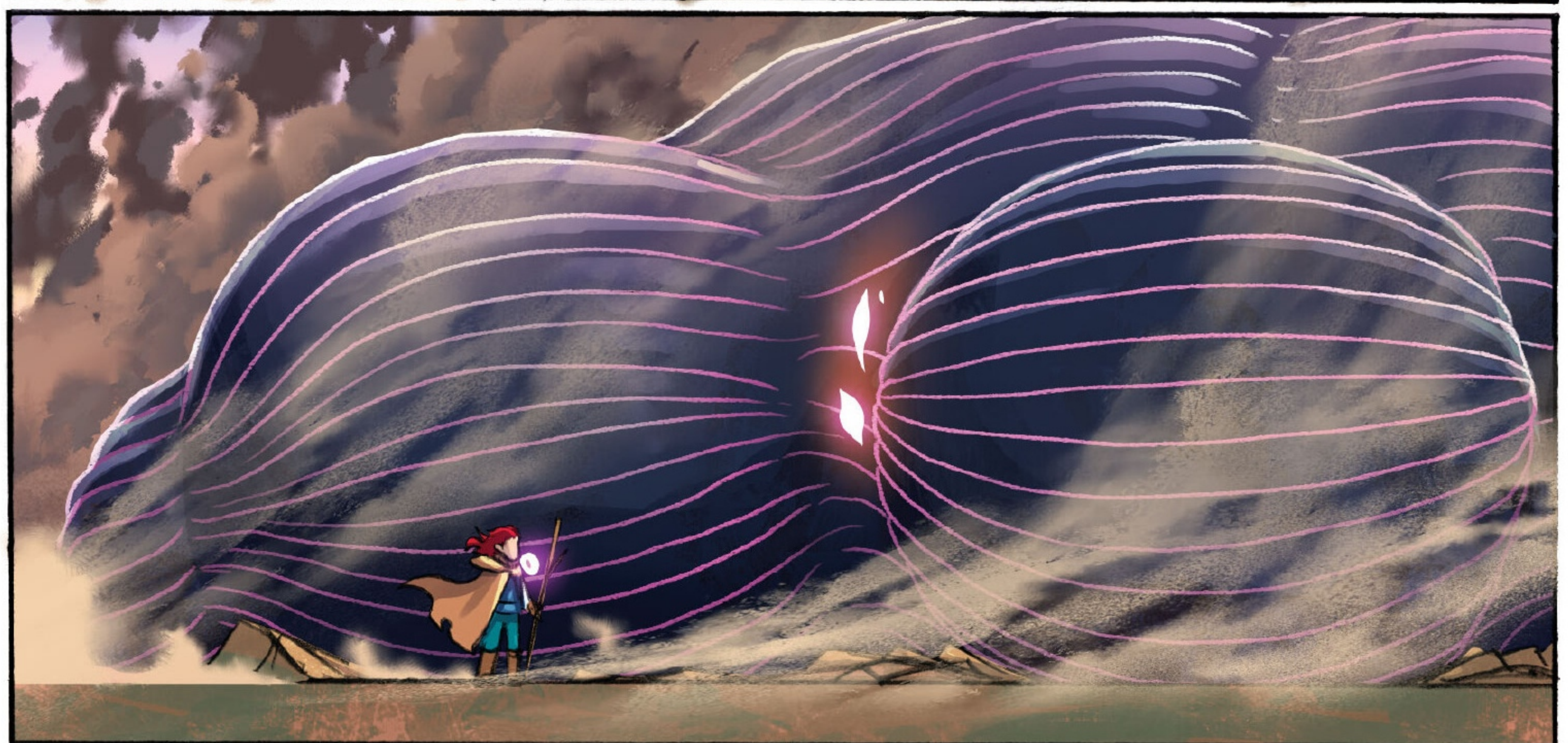
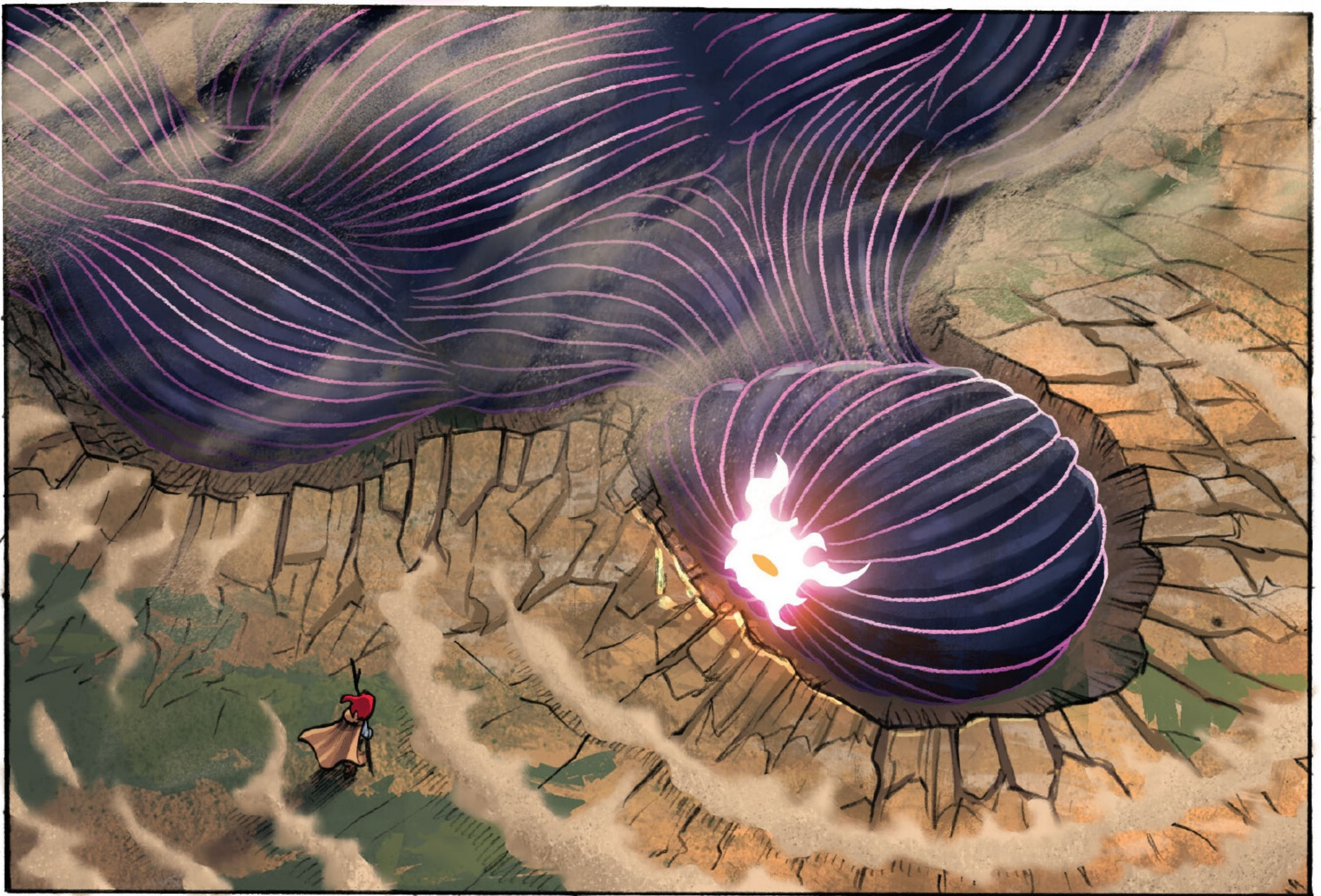


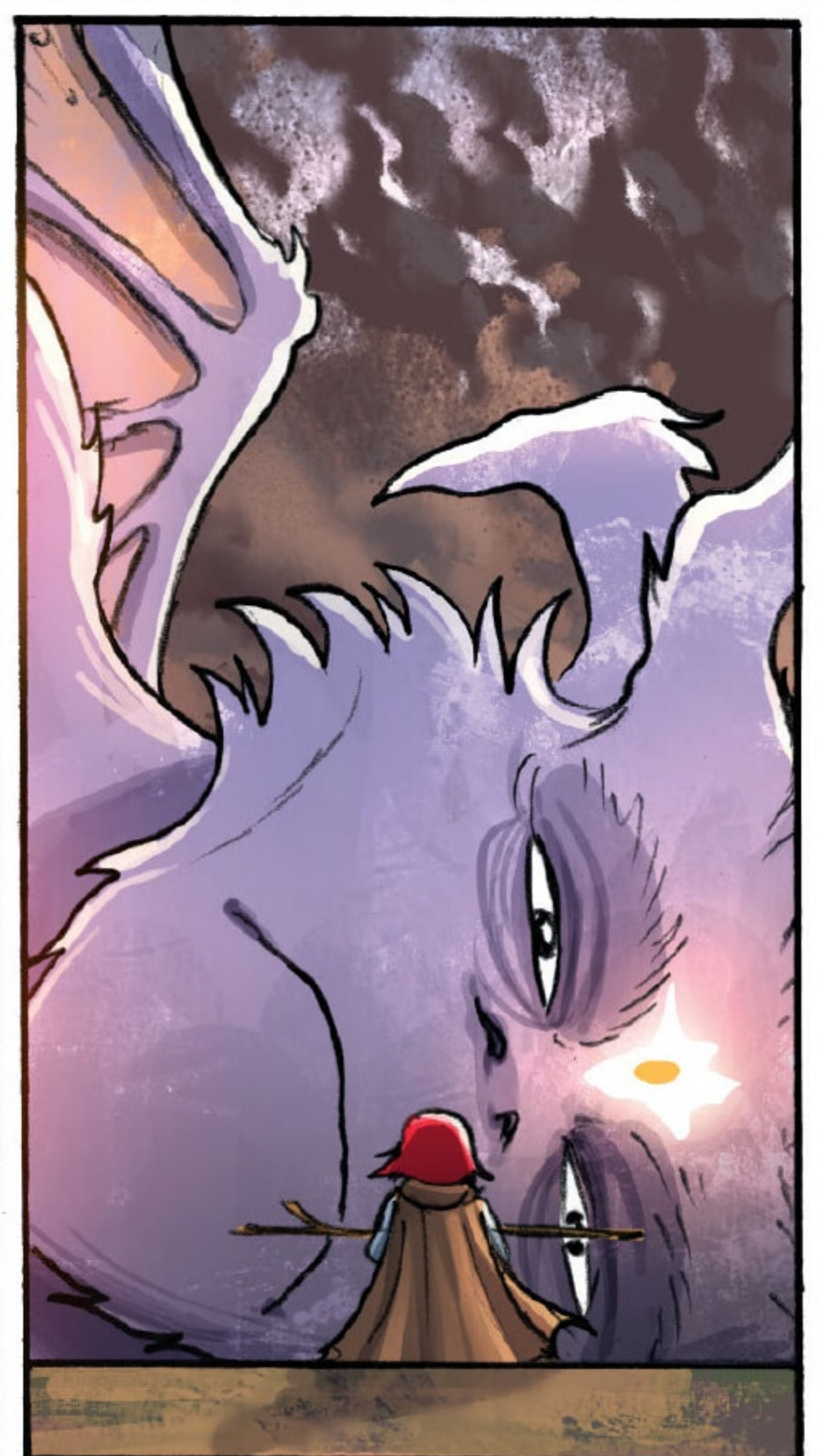
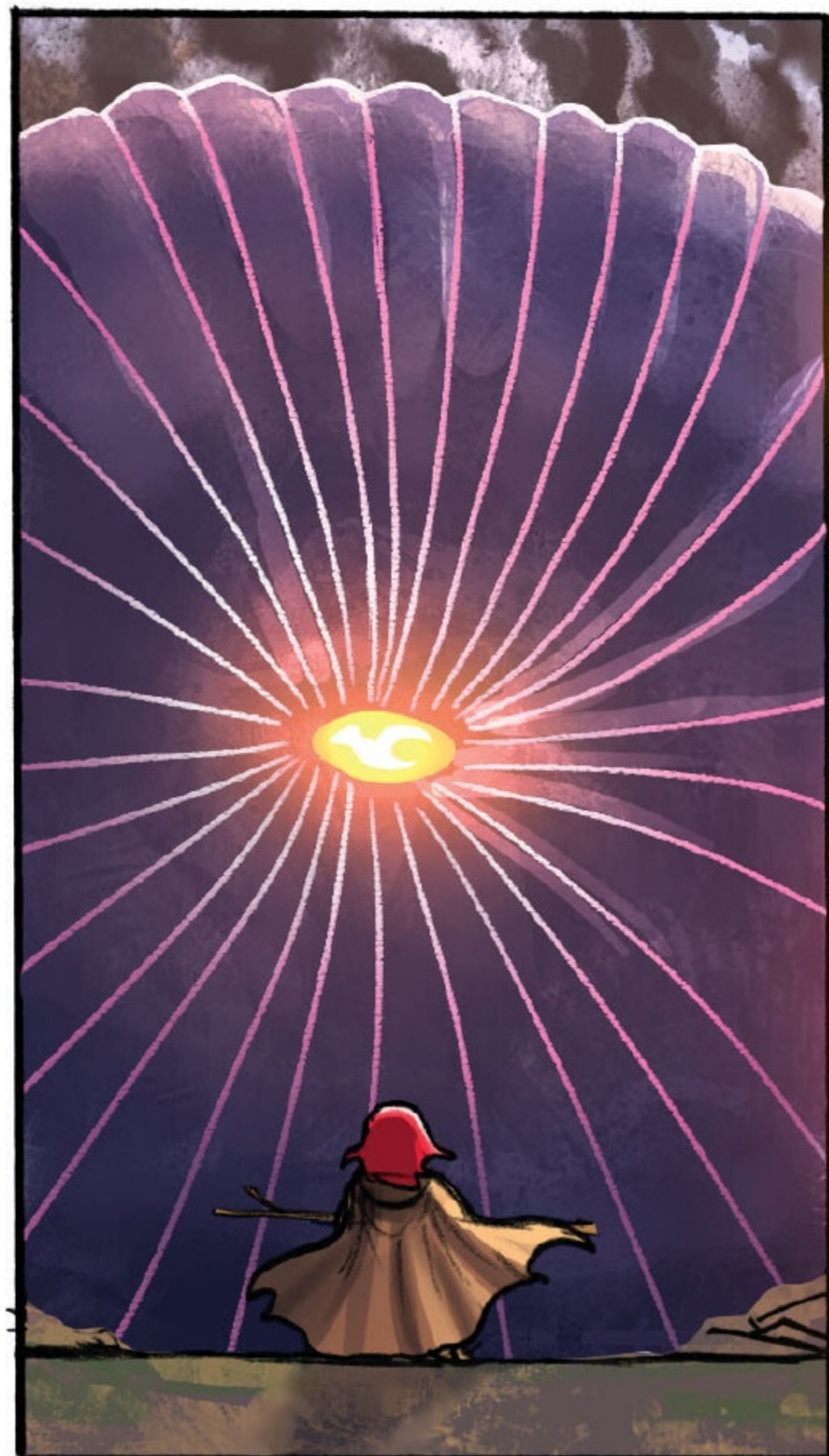
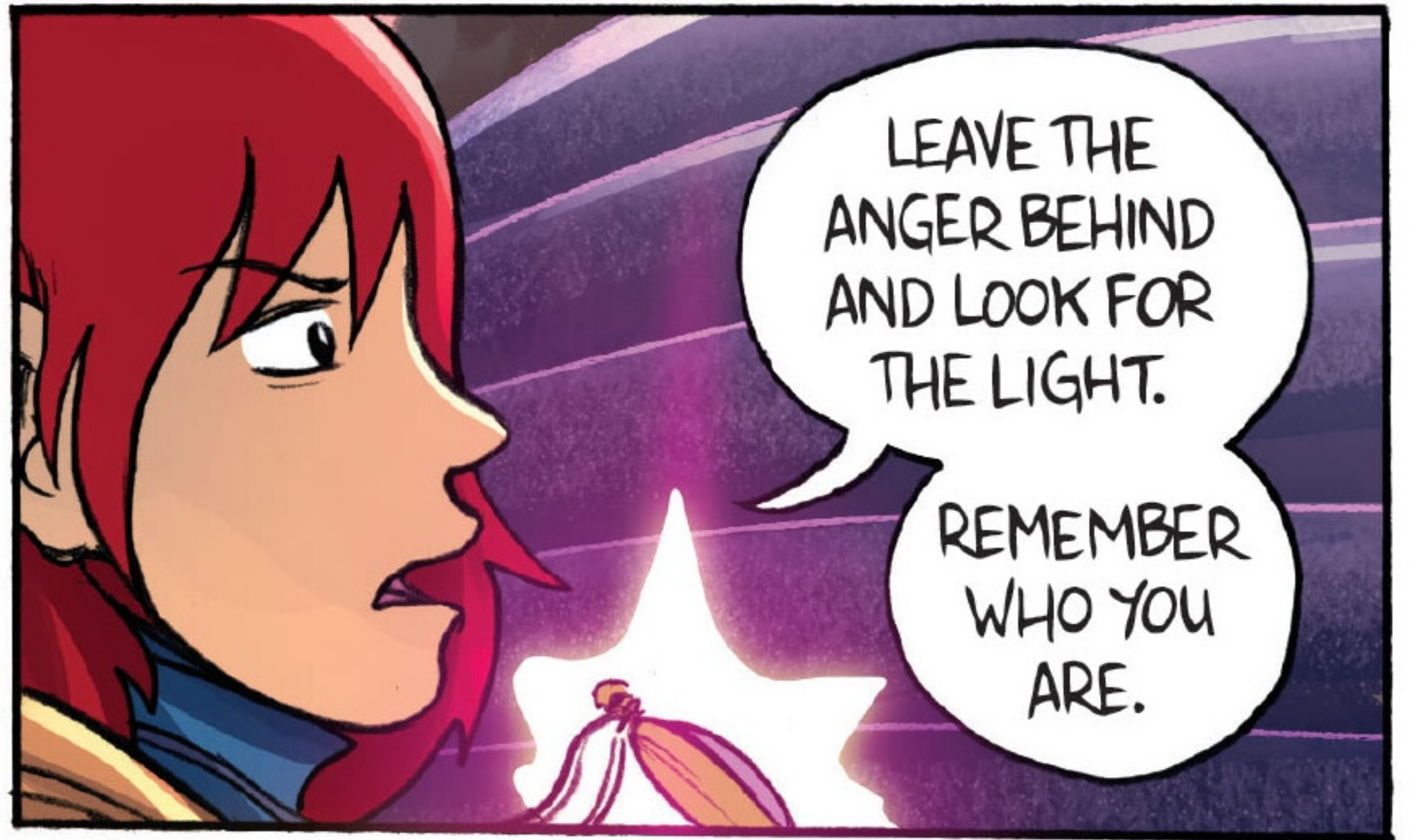


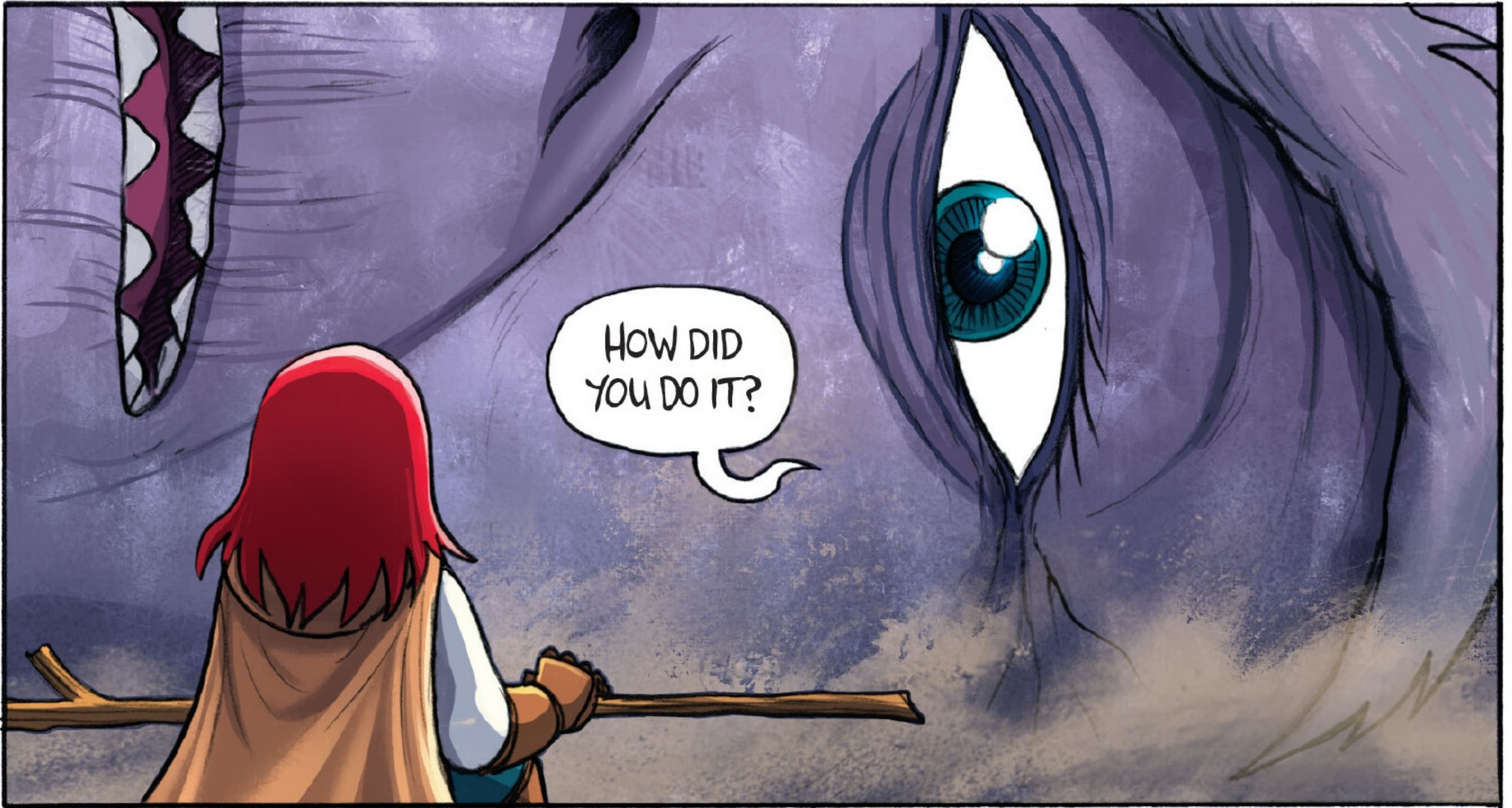


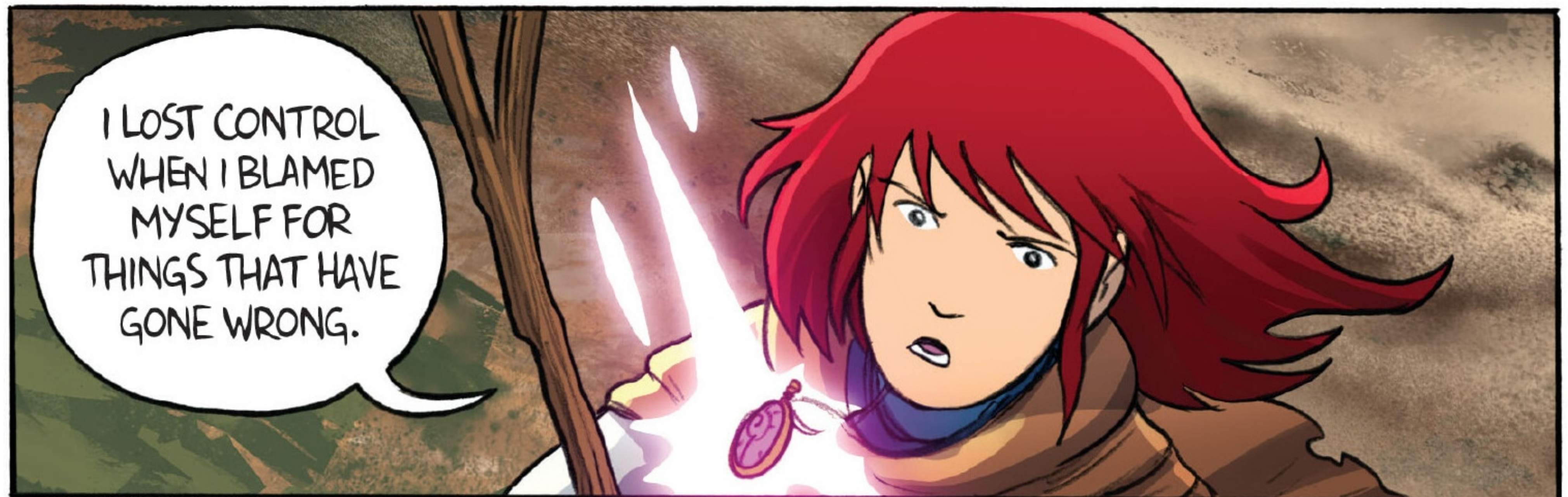
KOOOM!!!

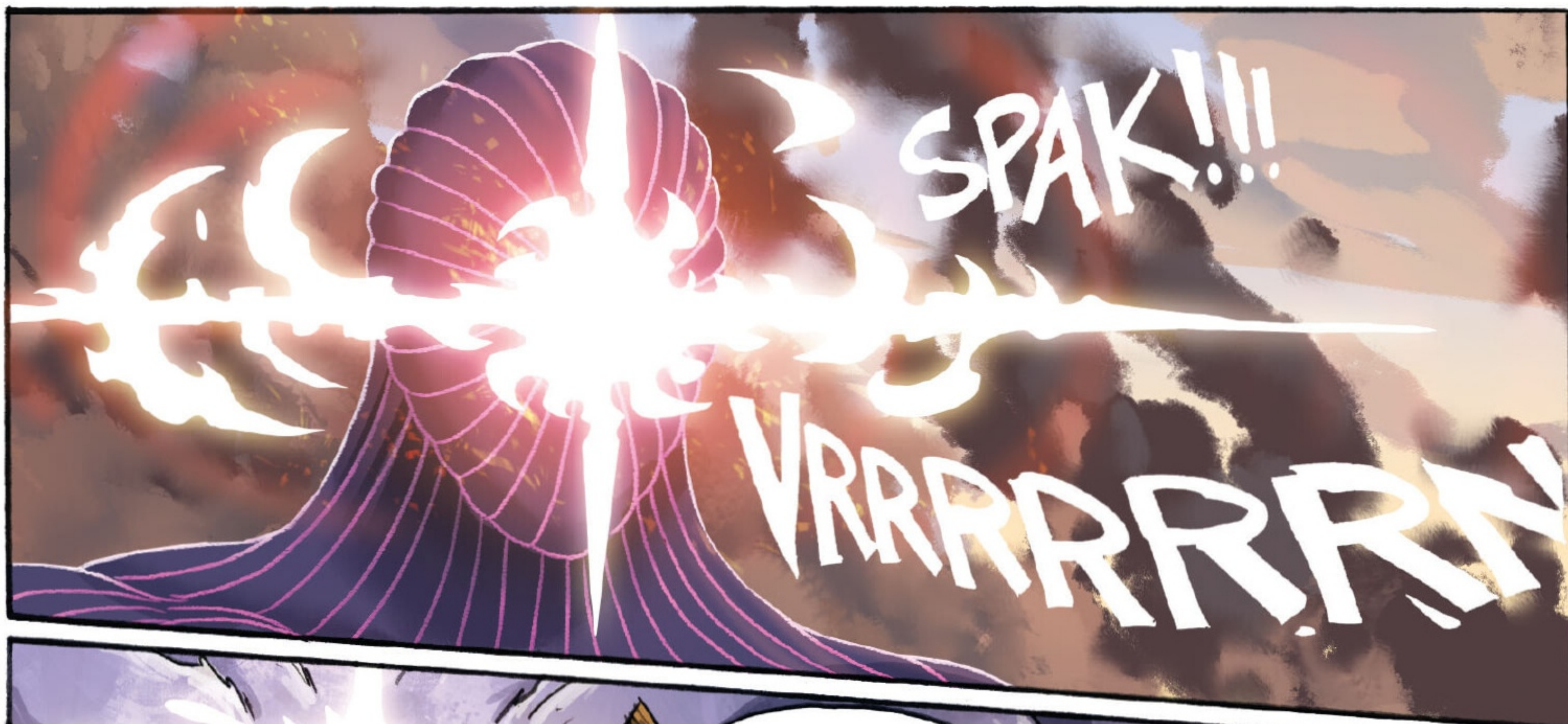


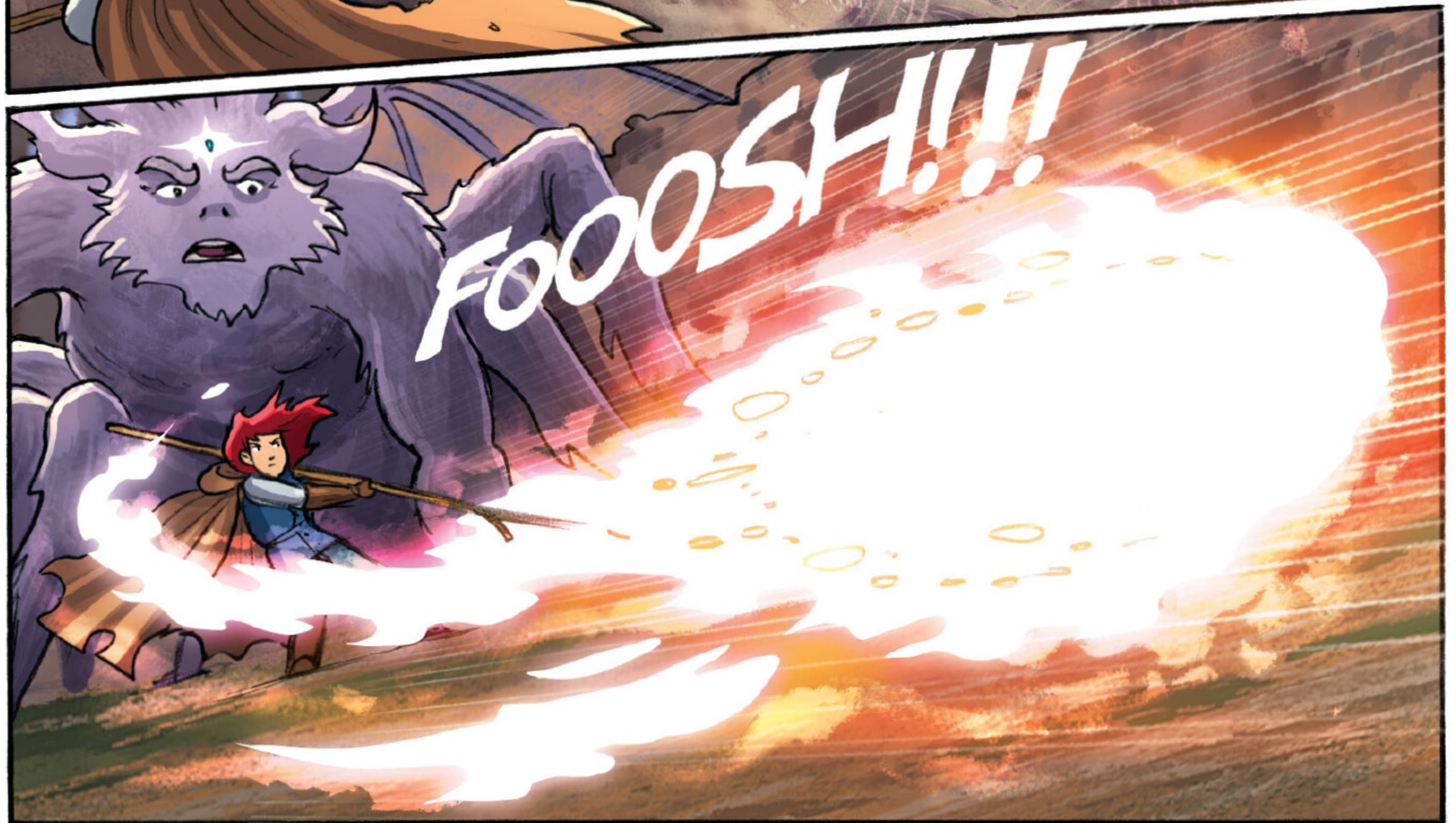
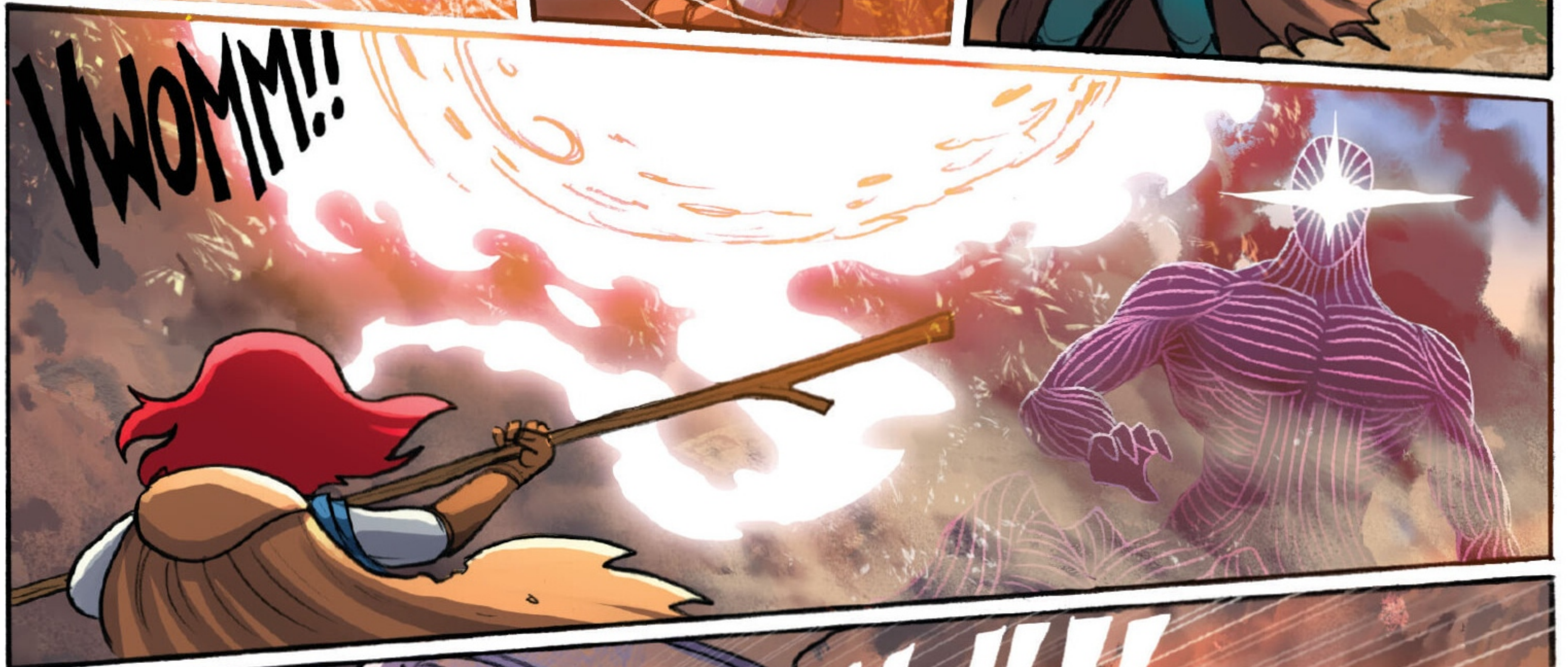


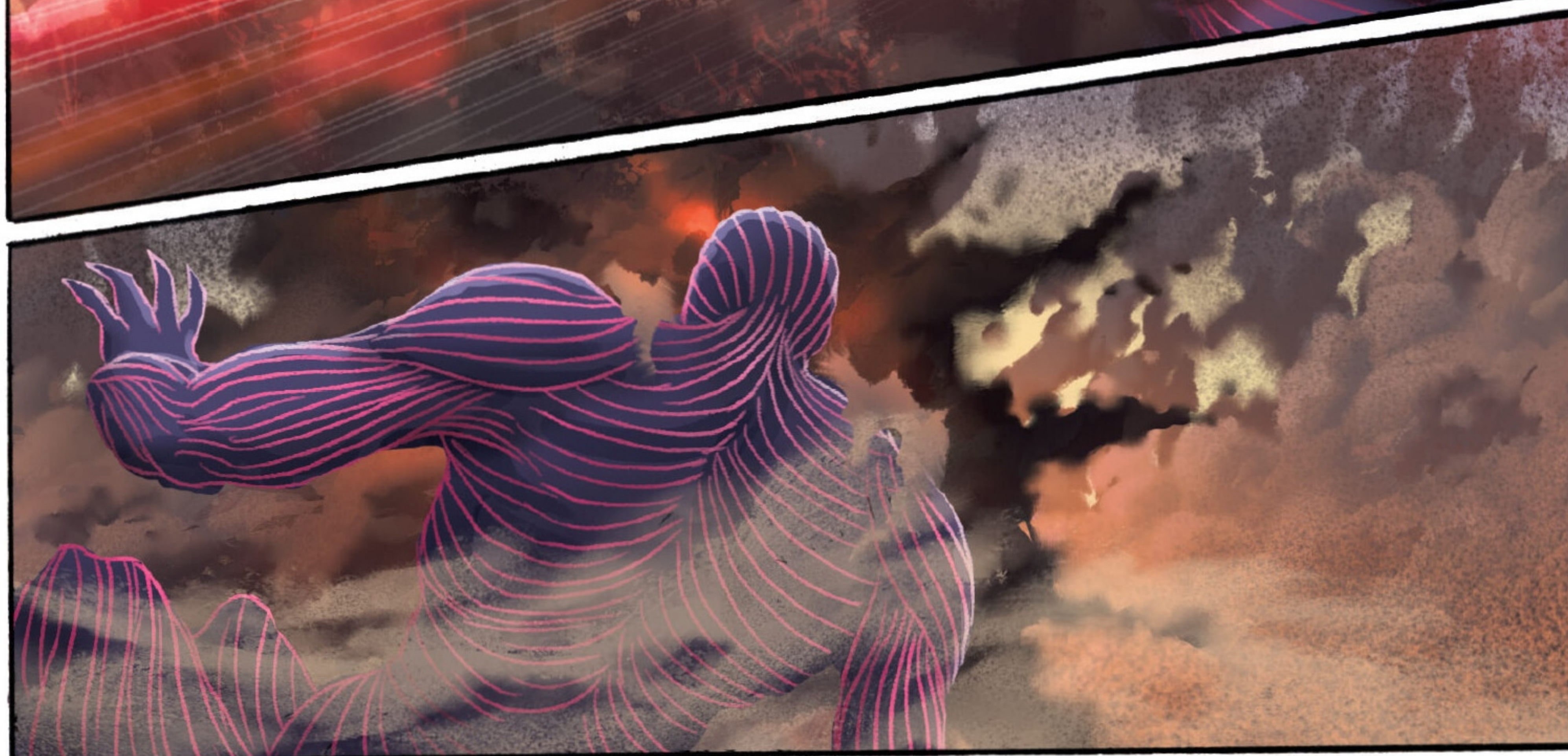


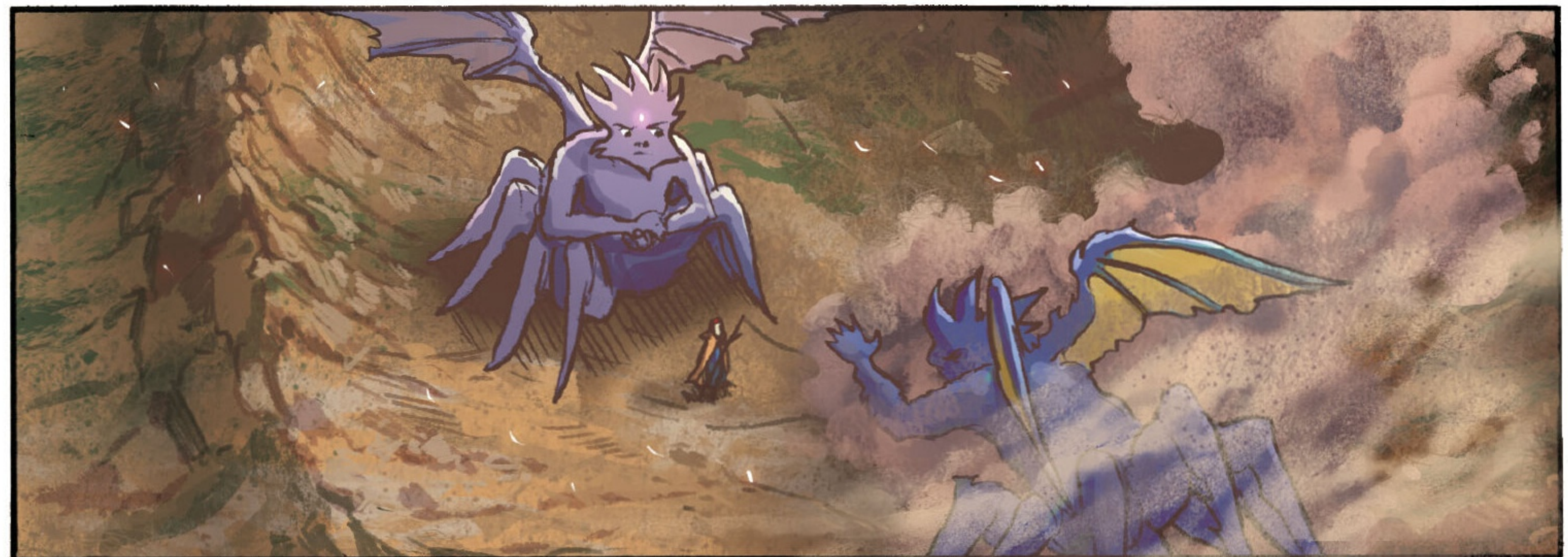


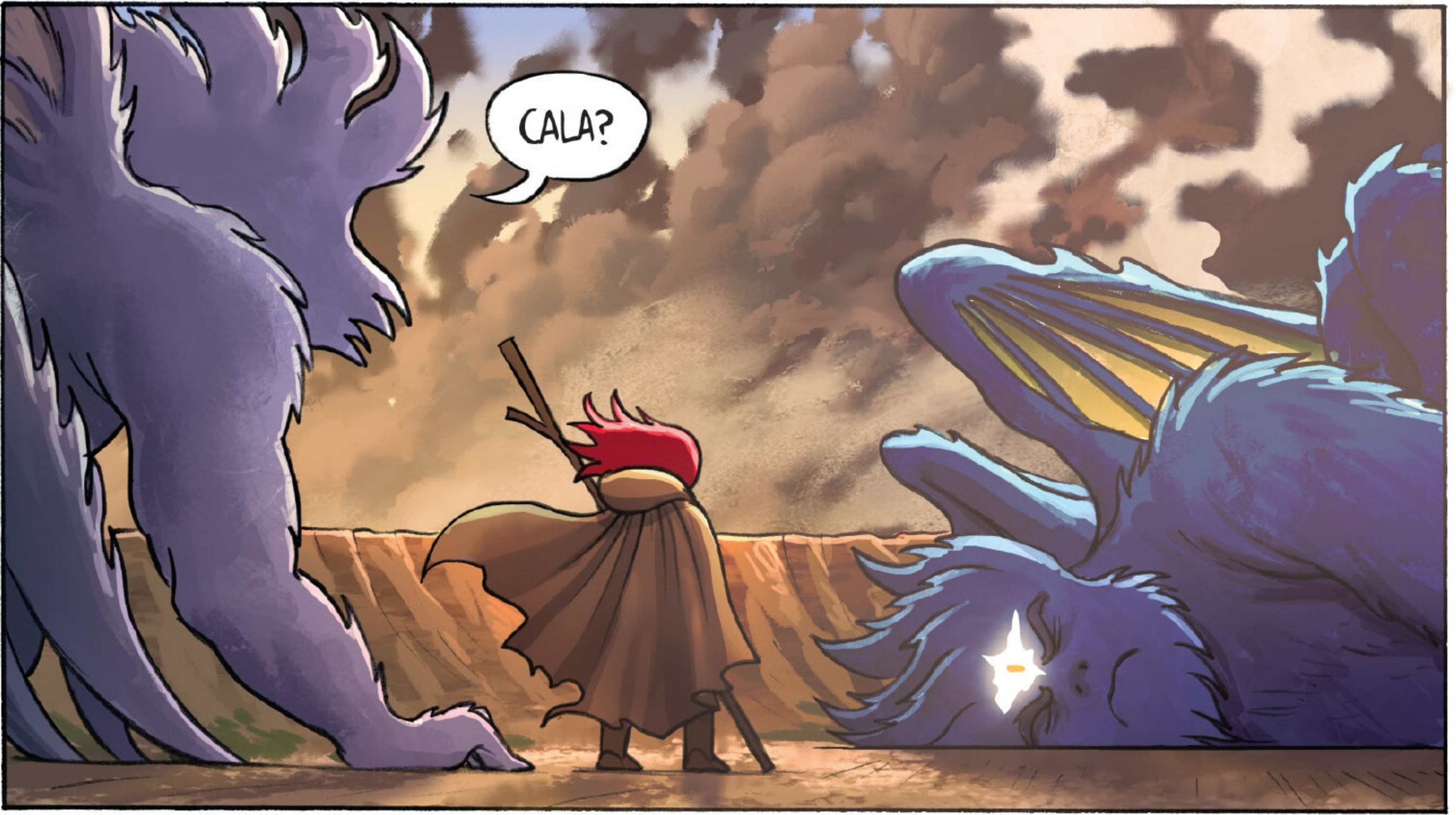


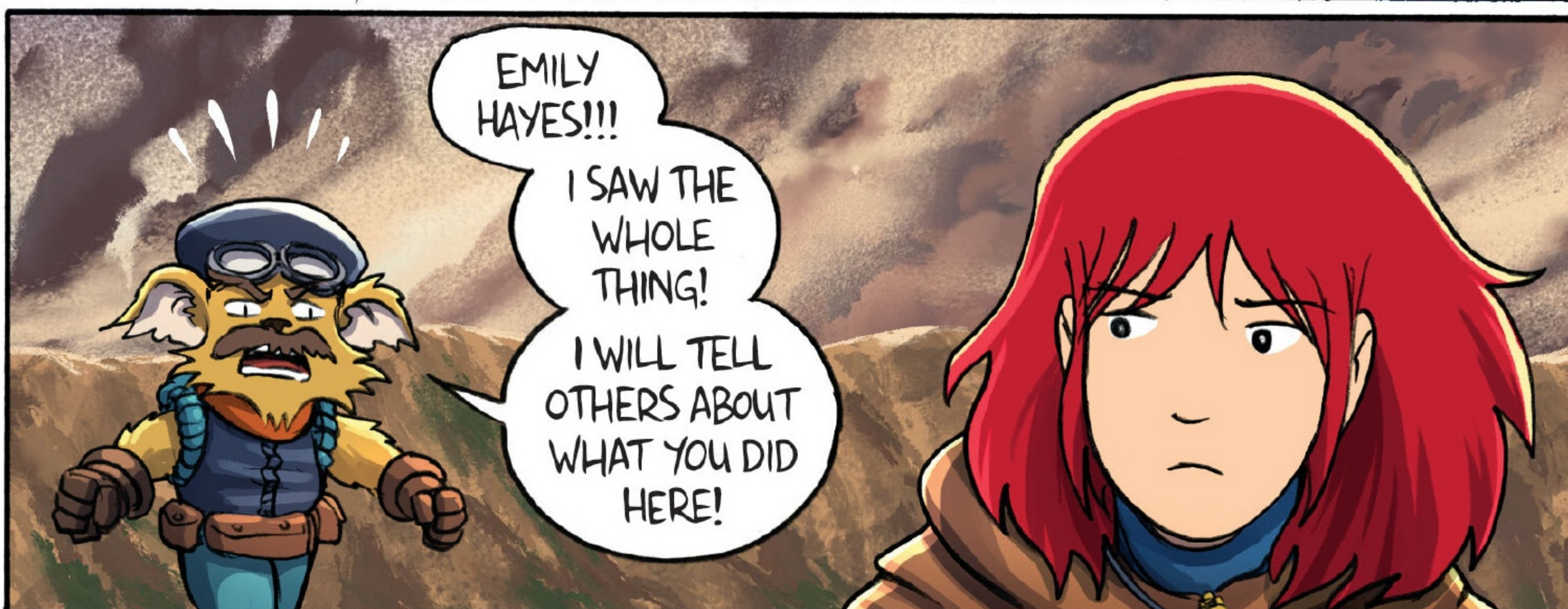
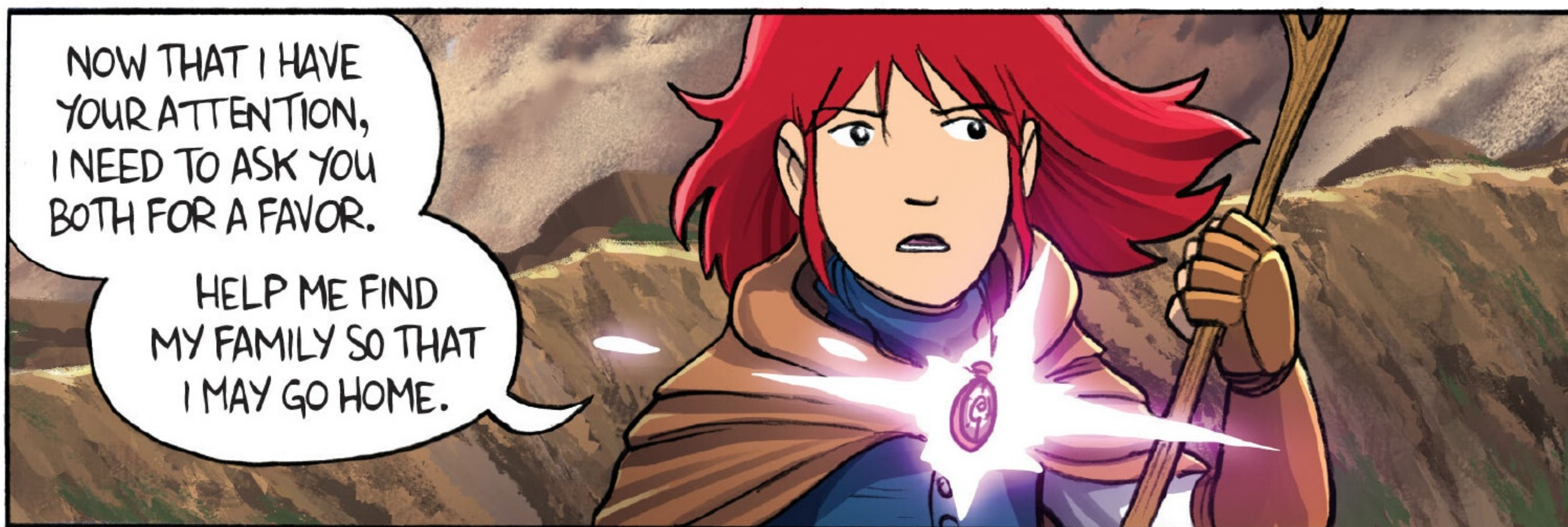


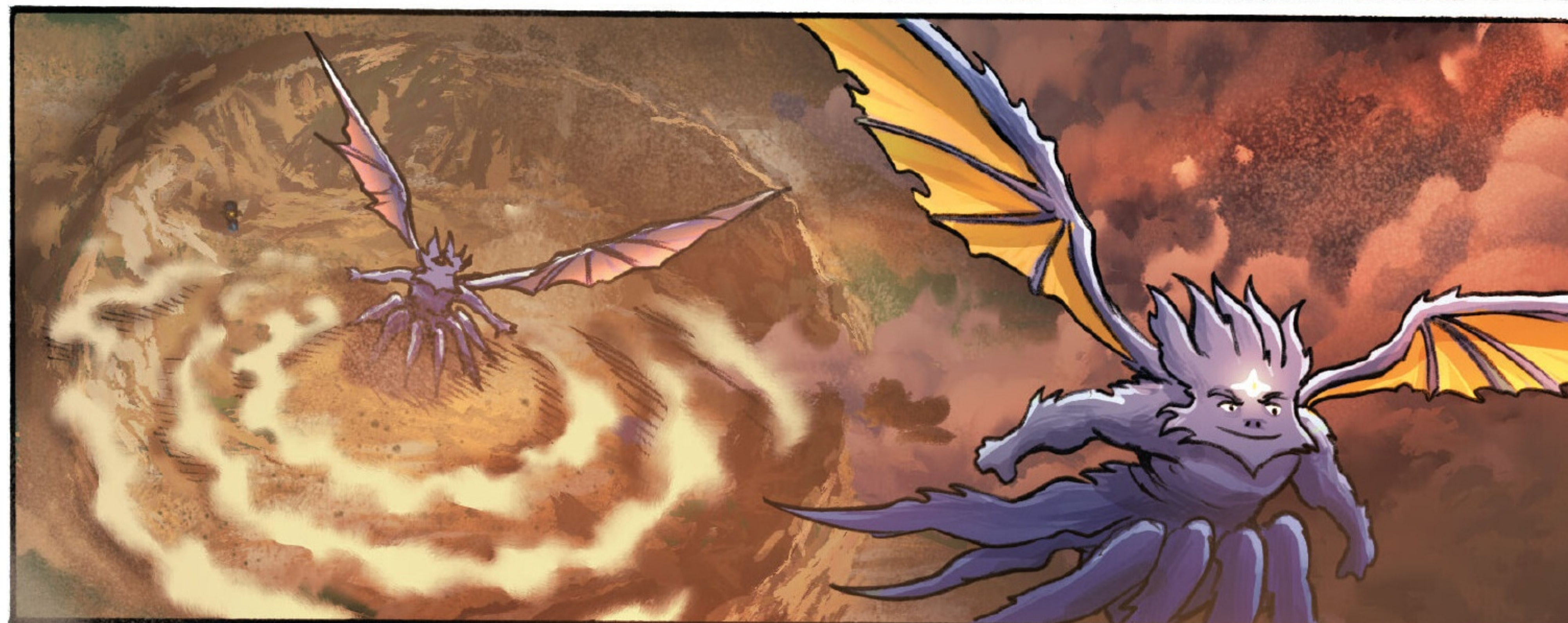
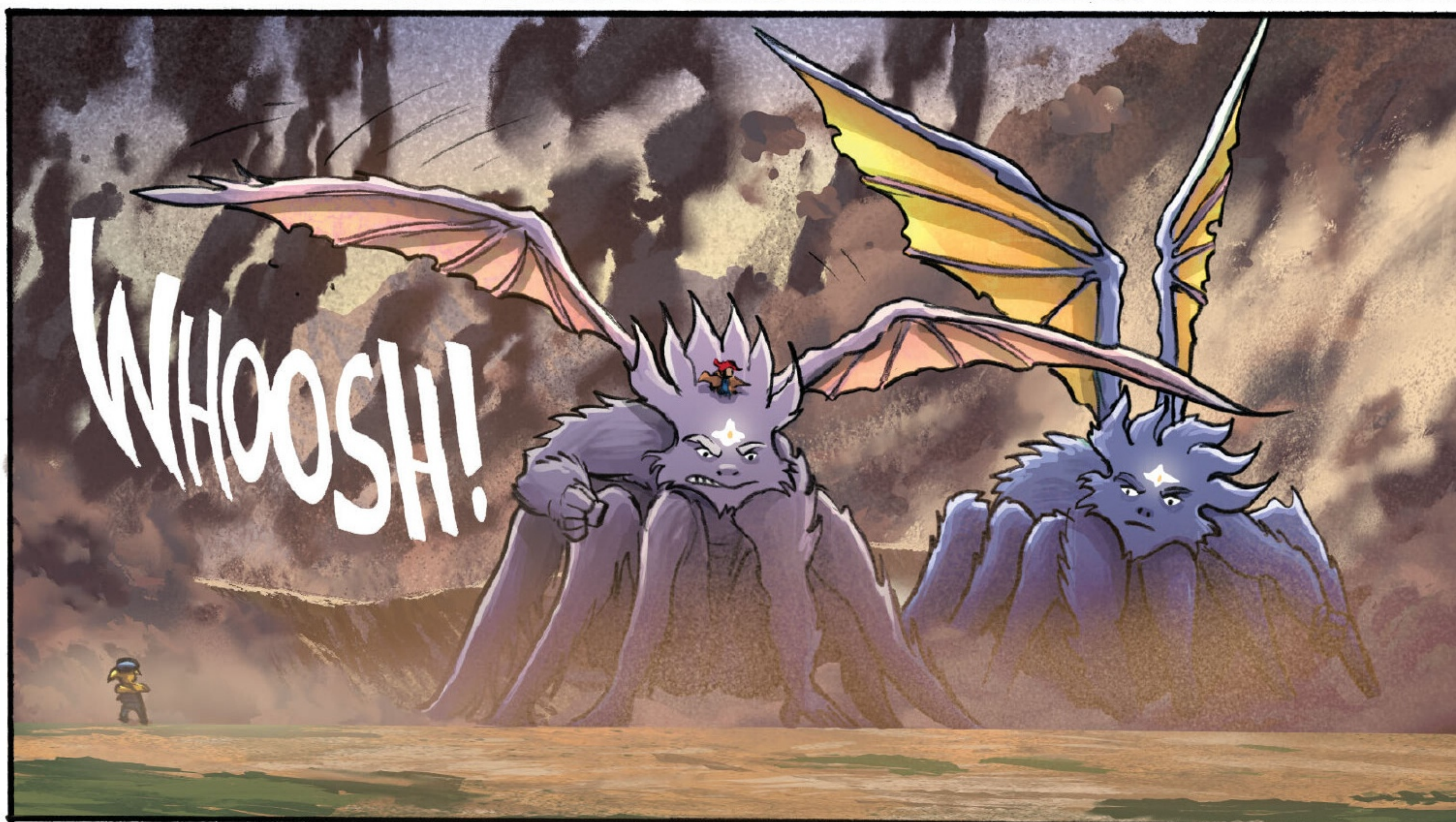


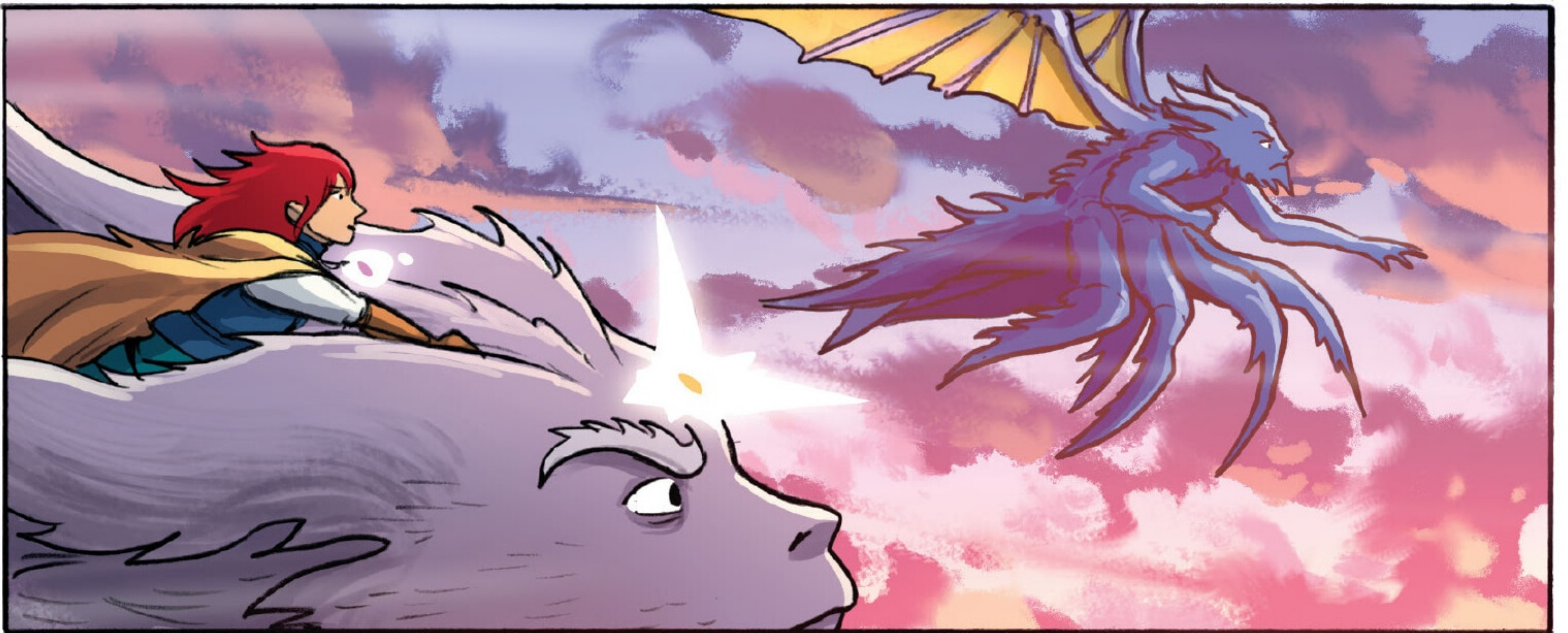




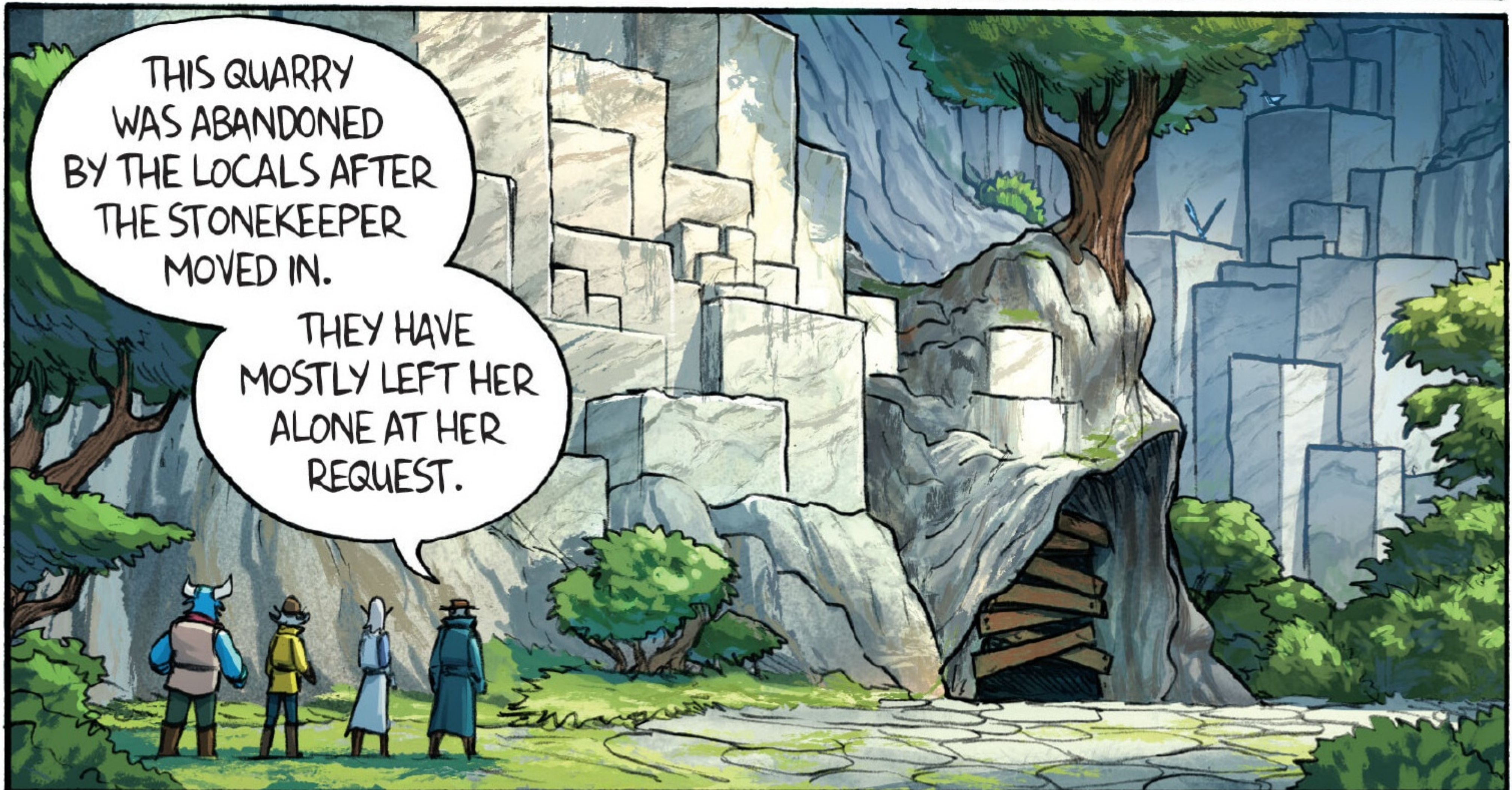


















WE ARE ON A
MISSION TO REBUILD
ALLEDIA,
AND YOU
ARE THE BEST
BUILDER I KNOW.

SO WHY DID YOU NOT
DEFEND ME WHEN THE
COUNCIL DECIDED TO
FORCE ME OUT?

EXILED FOR
TELLING THE
TRUTH.



WHEN I QUESTIONED
THE COUNCIL, THEY PUT
ALL THEIR FAITH IN MAX,
AND LOOK WHERE IT
GOT THEM.

YOU AGREED
WITH THEM. YOU
WERE ON THEIR
SIDE.



ONE OF MY BIGGEST
MISTAKES, AND FOR
THAT, I AM SORRY.

I'M DETERMINED
NOT TO MAKE THE
SAME MISTAKE AGAIN.



I WAS ASKED TO
LEAD A NEW GUARDIAN
COUNCIL, BUT MY TIME
HAS PASSED.

I KNOW IT
HAS TO BE LED
BY YOU.



WILL YOU
DO THIS?



VIGO--



I ALREADY
STARTED.



I HAD A
FEELING.
HOW MANY?

FOUR.
FIVE IF YOU
INCLUDE ME.



I ASSUMED EVERYTHING
WOULD EVENTUALLY
FALL APART ON ITS OWN.

SO WE TRAINED
FOR WHEN ALLEDIA
WOULD NEED US.

I GUESS
THAT TIME
IS NOW.

WHO ARE
YOUR NEW
STUDENTS?

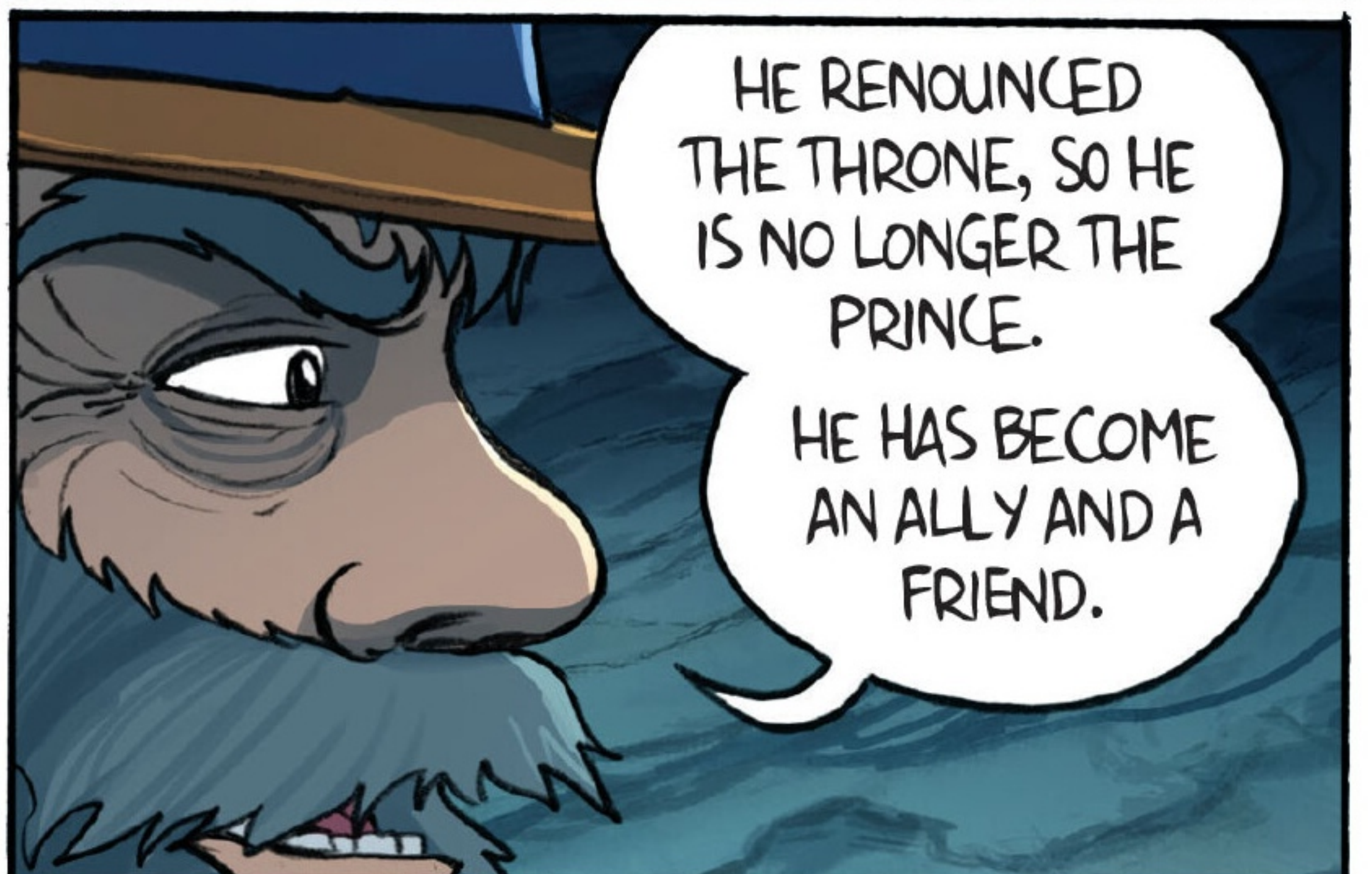


THEY ARE
NOT STUDENTS.

THIS IS
TRELLIS.

PRINCE OF
THE ELVES?

WHY WOULD
YOU BRING HIM
HERE?



HE RENOUNCED
THE THRONE, SO HE
IS NO LONGER THE
PRINCE.

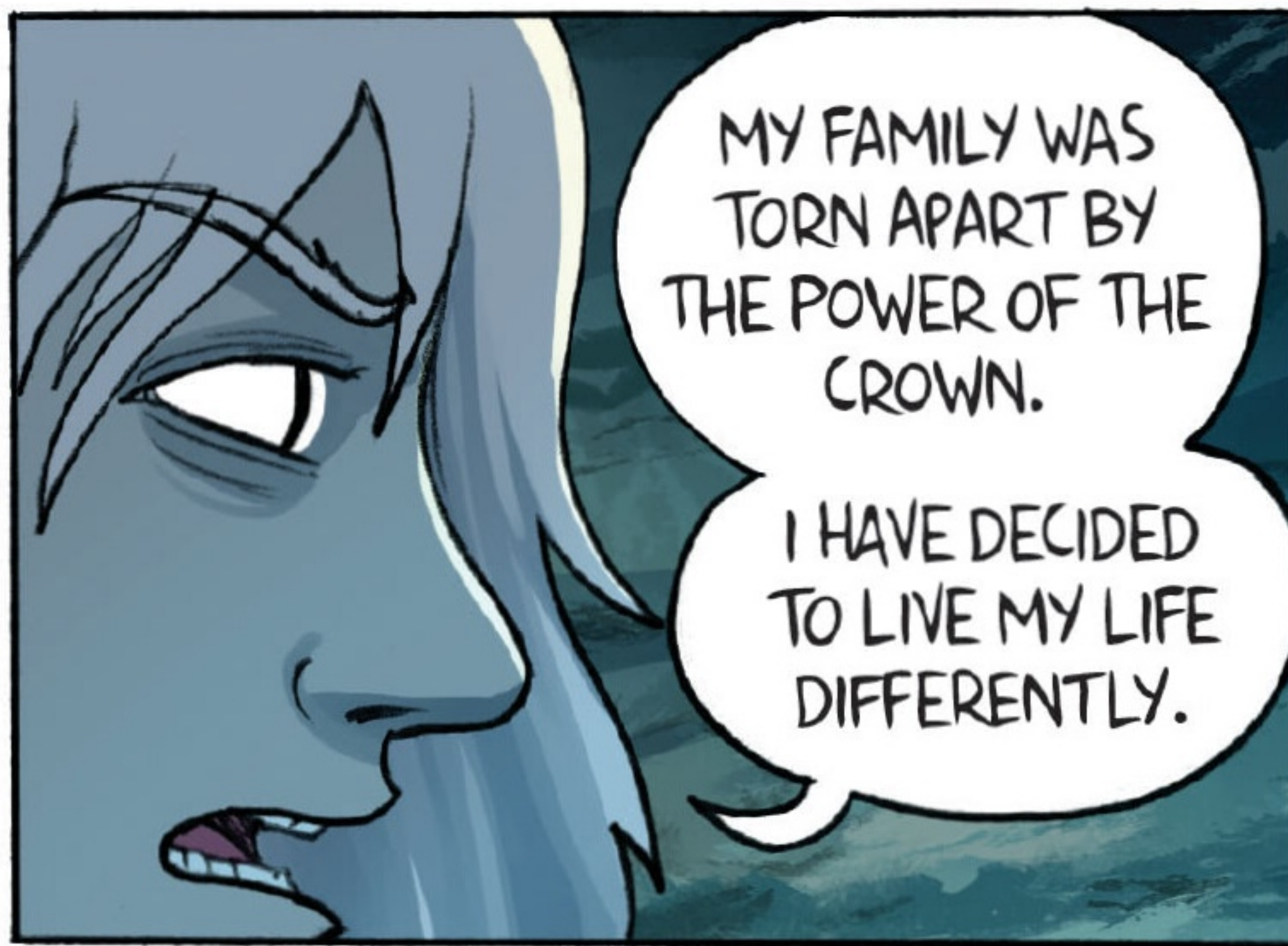
HE HAS BECOME
AN ALLY AND A
FRIEND.



YOU WALKED
AWAY FROM THE
THRONE?

THAT WAS
YOUR CHOICE?

YES.



MY FAMILY WAS
TORN APART BY
THE POWER OF THE
CROWN.

I HAVE DECIDED
TO LIVE MY LIFE
DIFFERENTLY.



IF YOU NEED
ME TO BUILD,
I'LL BUILD.

GOOD FOR
YOU, KID.

WHO'S THE
OTHER ELF?



MY NAME IS
RIVA ASH, AND THIS
IS MY ASSOCIATE
BALAN.

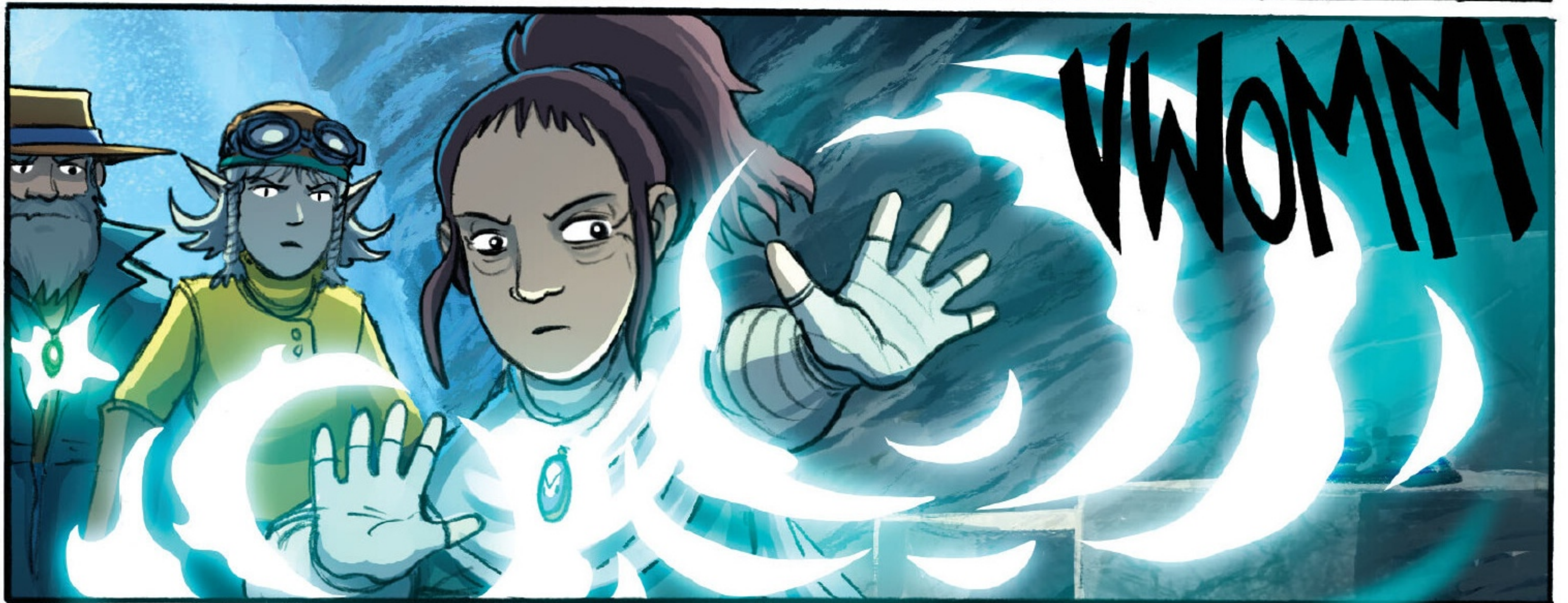
I AM THE MAYOR
OF LUCIEN, SISTER
CITY OF CIELIS.

THAT PUTS ME IN
CHARGE OF THE GUARDIAN
COUNCIL UNTIL ORDER IS
RESTORED.

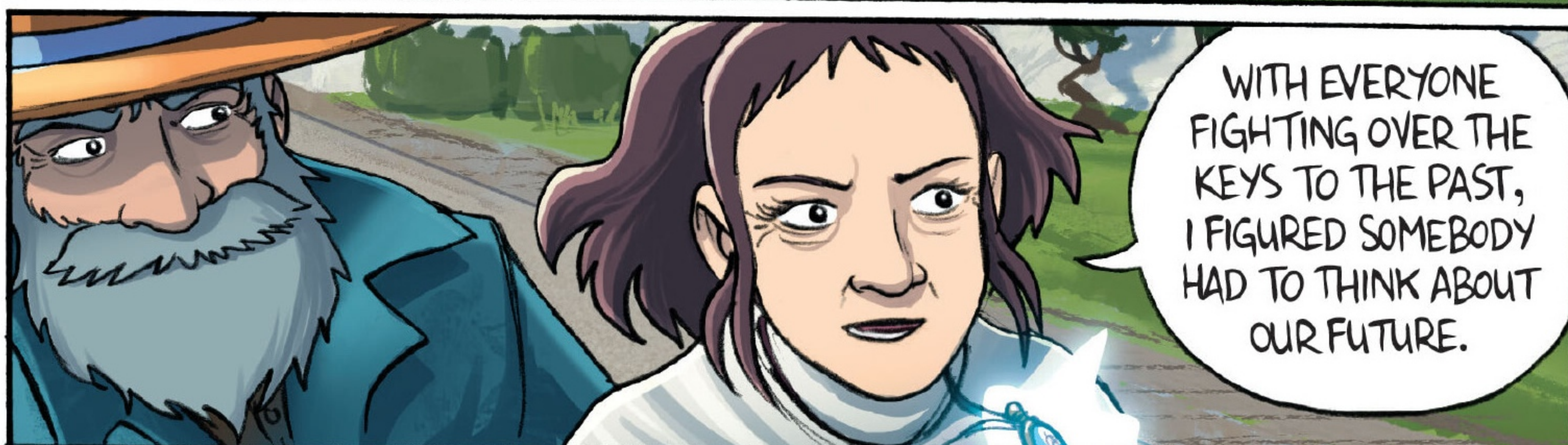
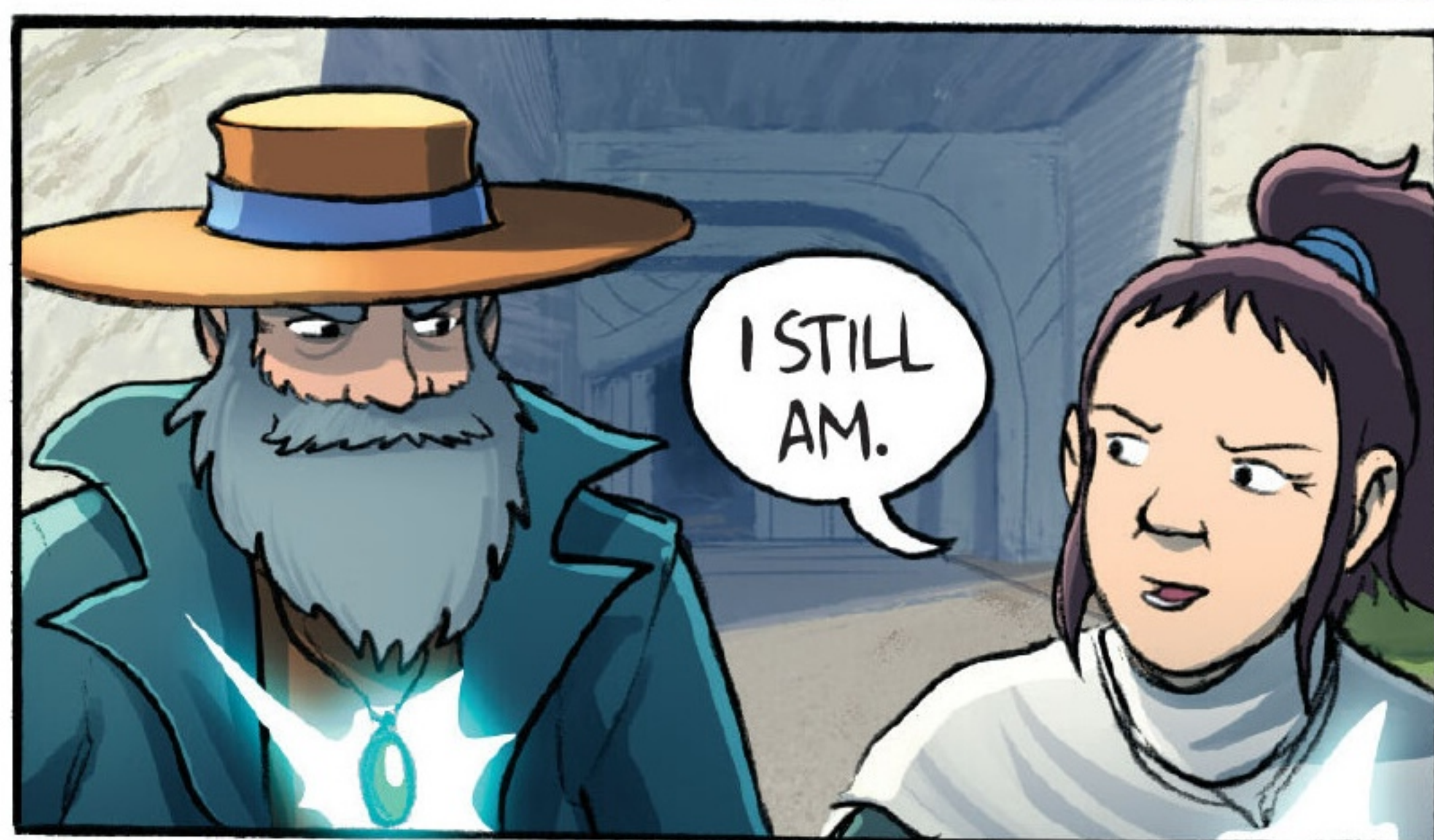
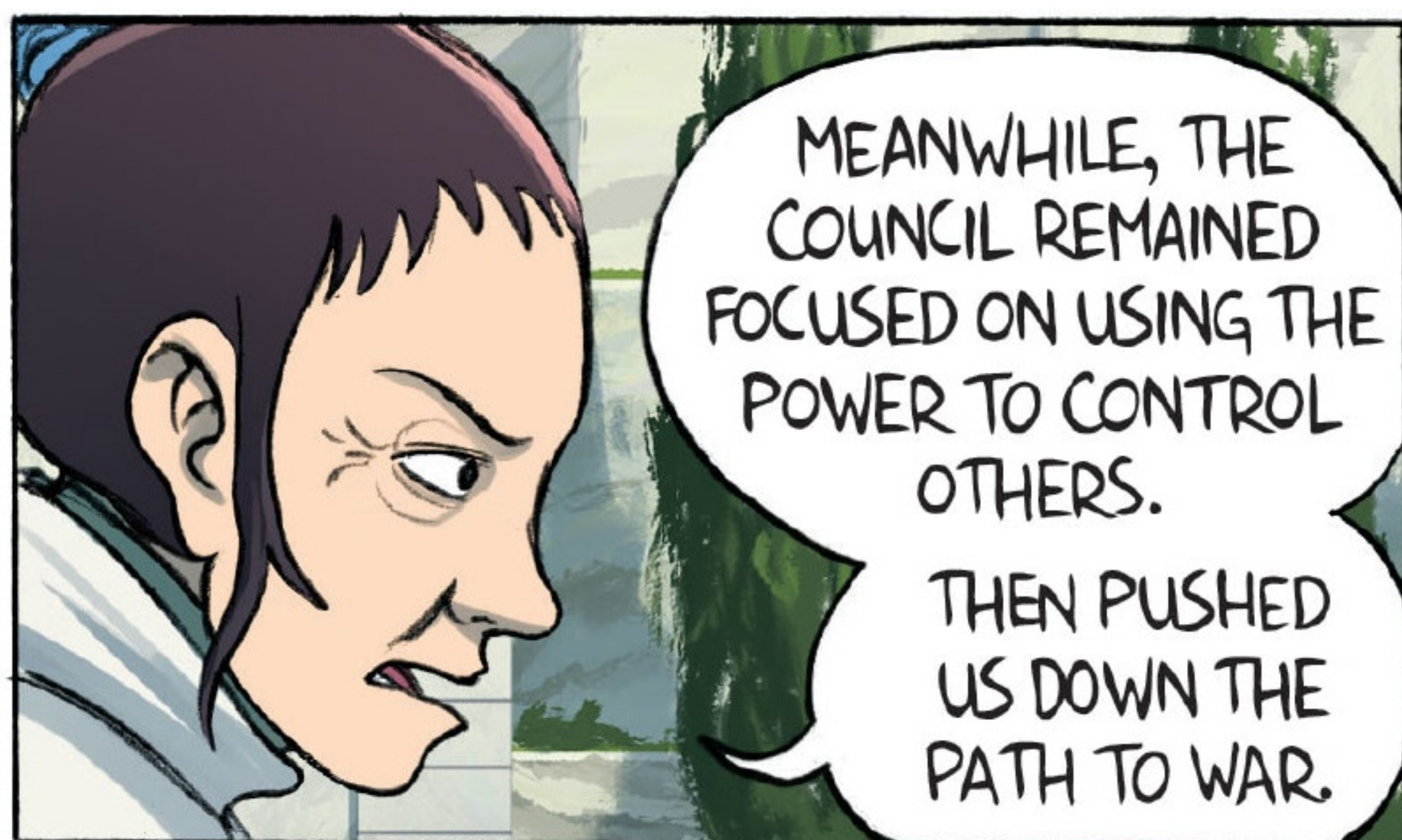


WITH THIS
AUTHORITY, I GRANT
YOU THE POWER TO LEAD
THE COUNCIL.

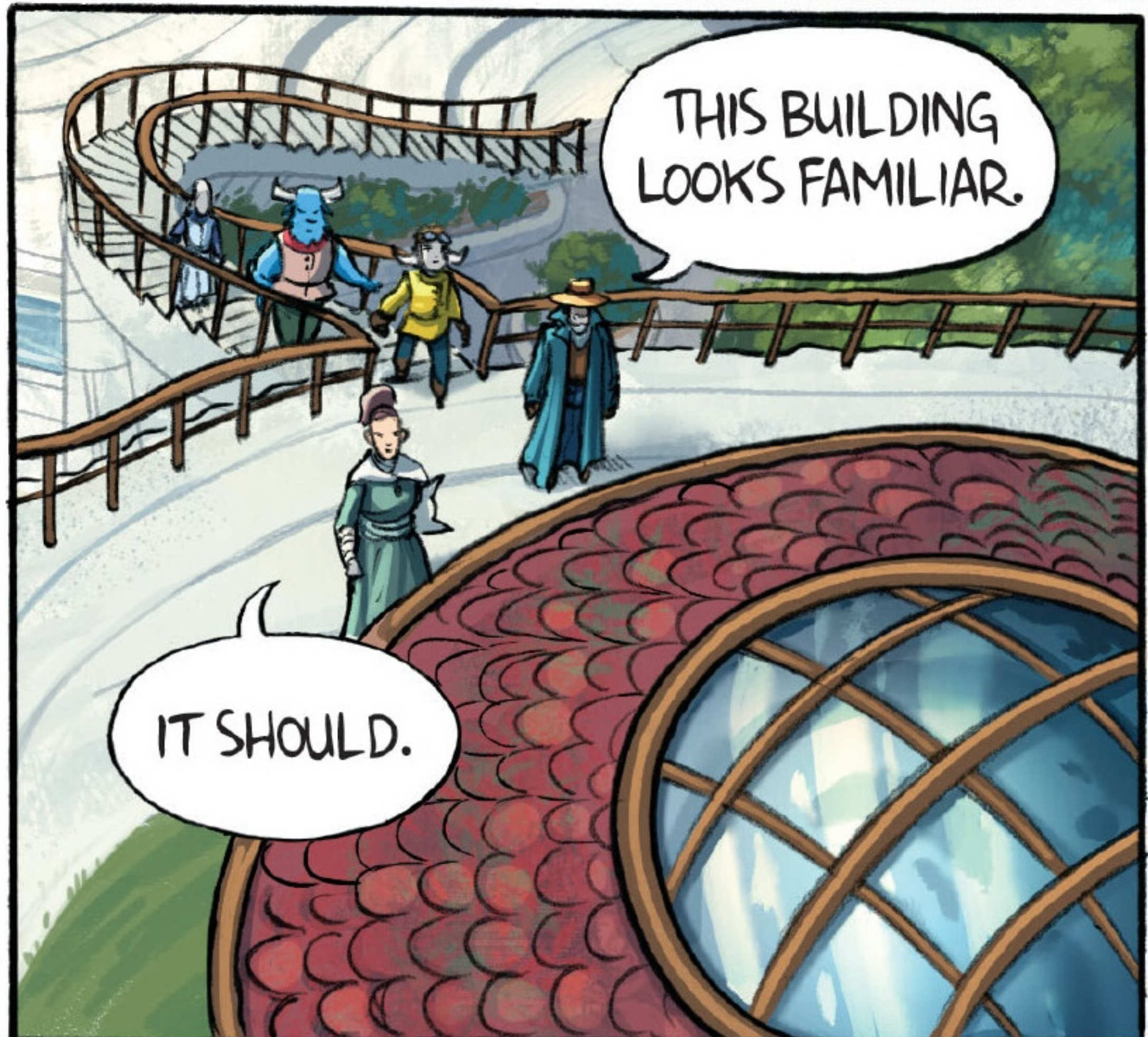
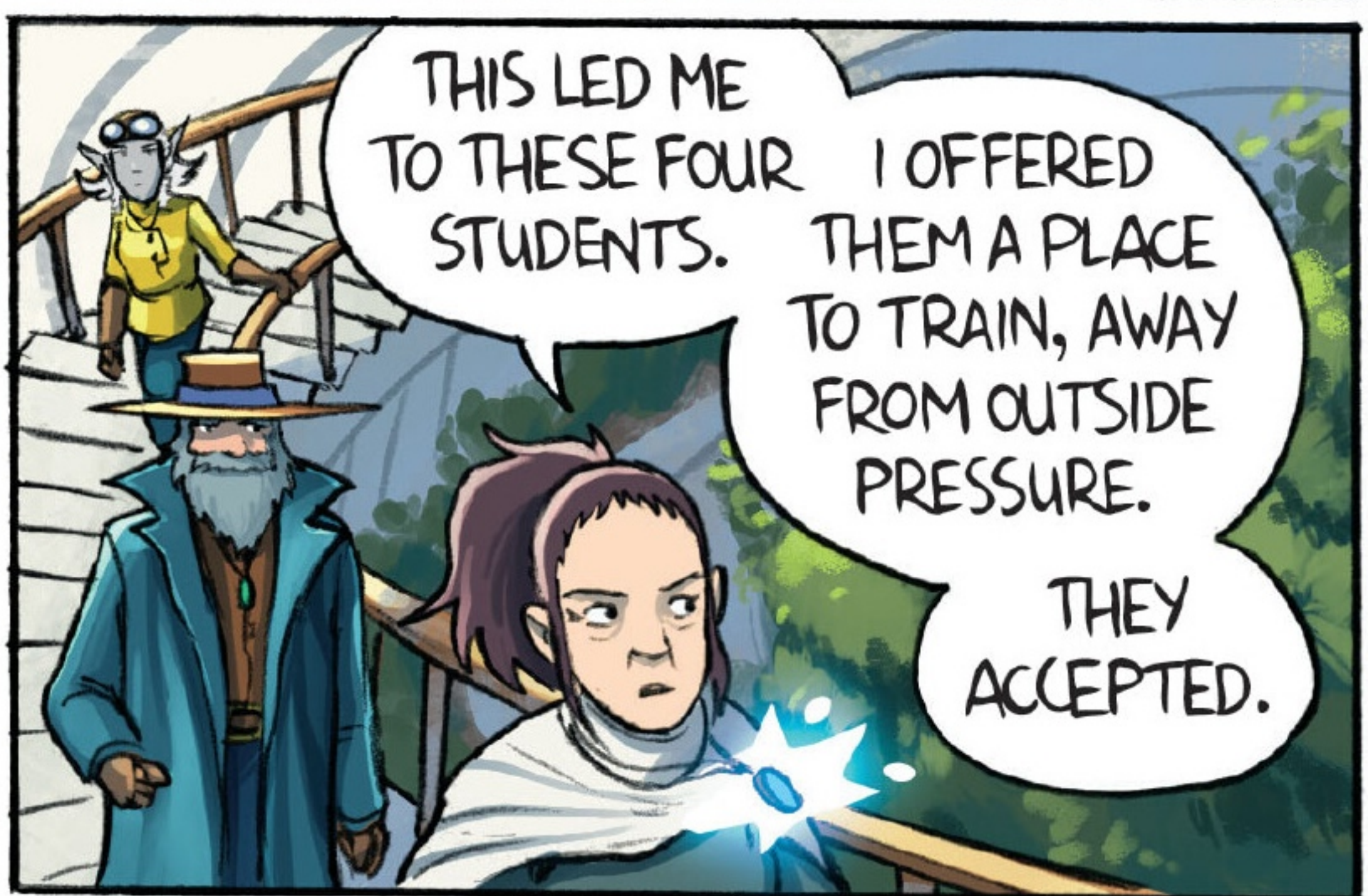
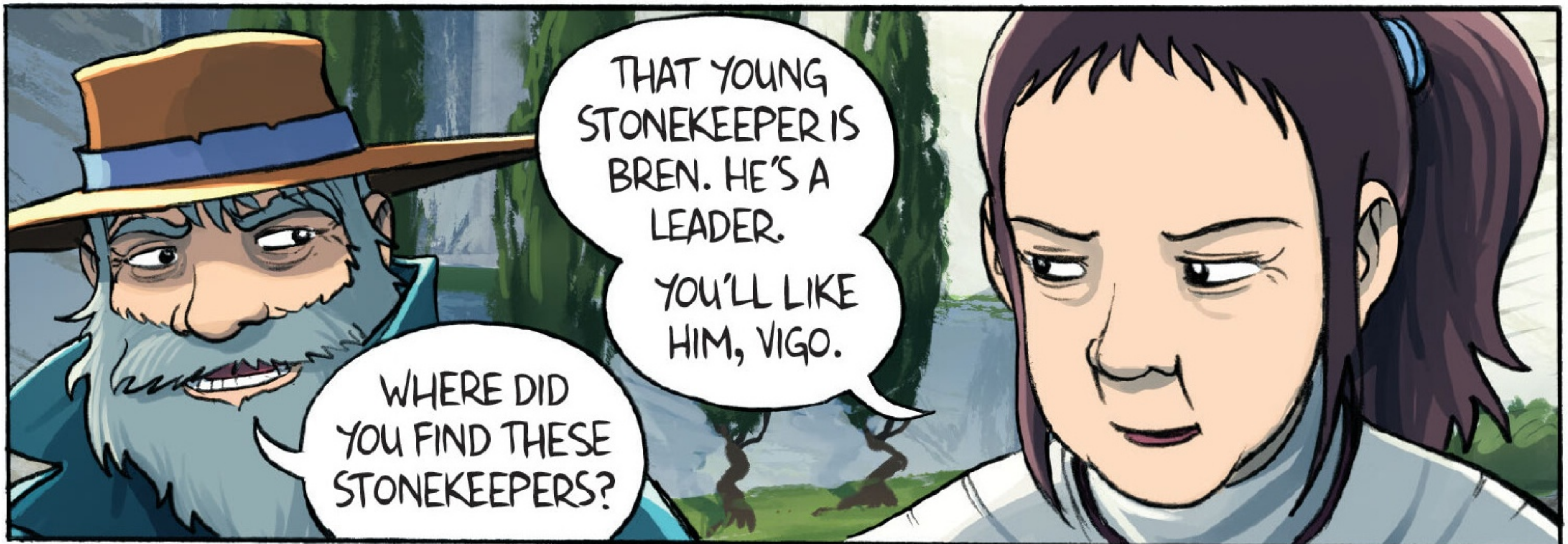
I WILL ASSIST
YOU IN ANY WAY
I CAN.

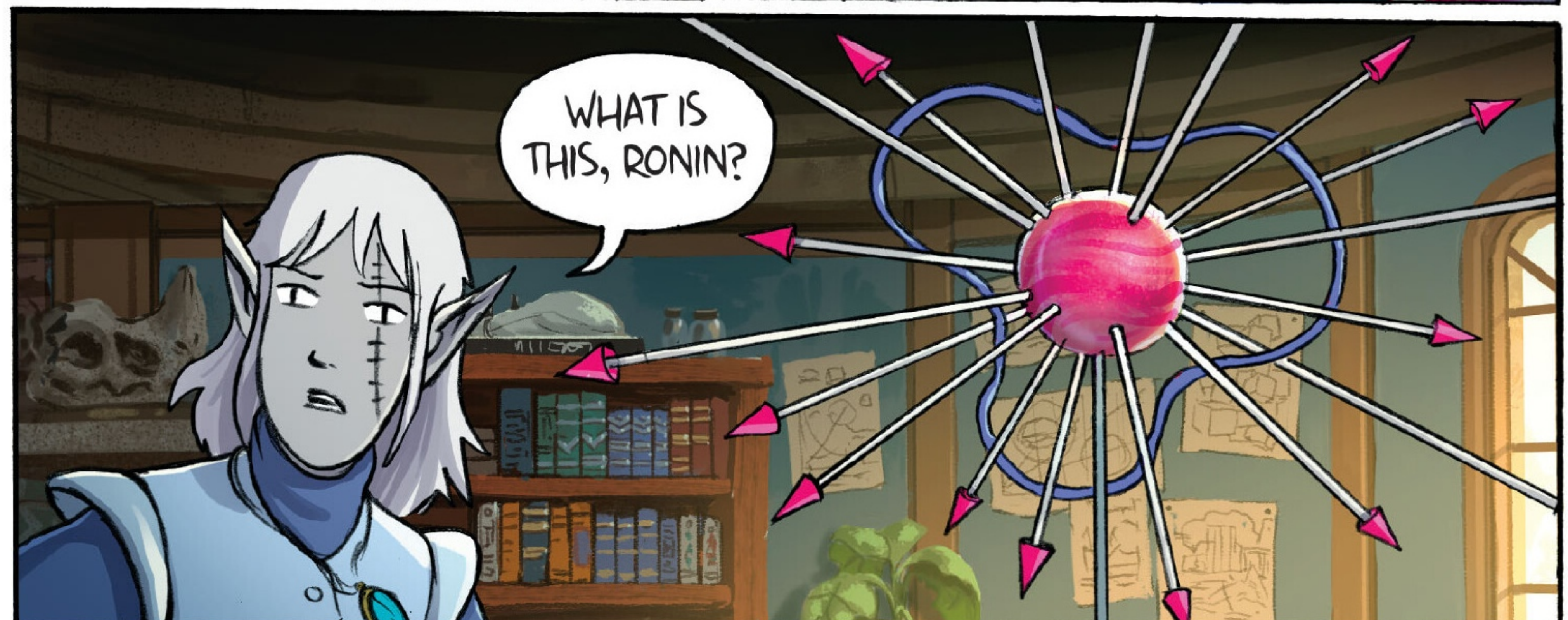
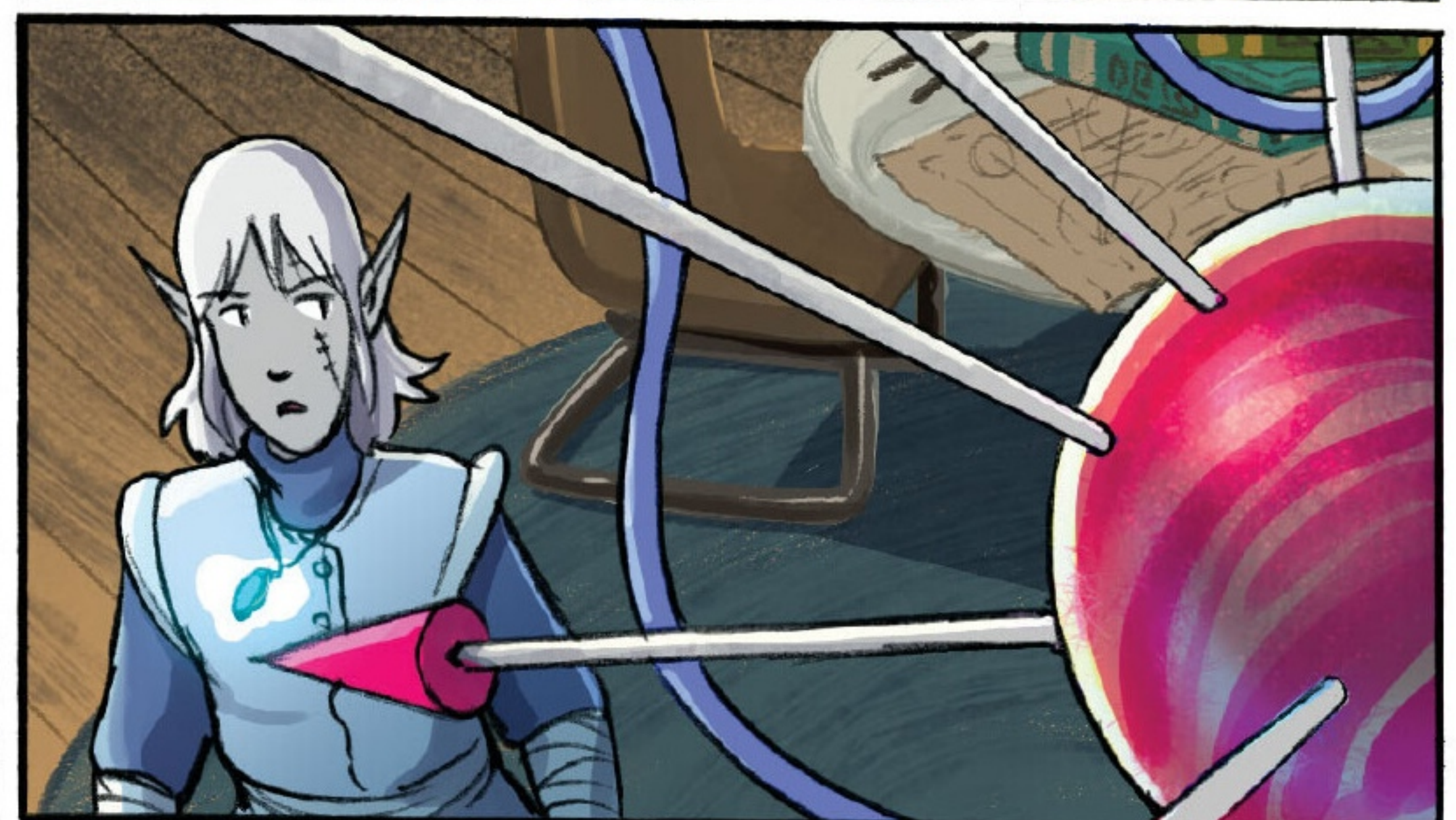


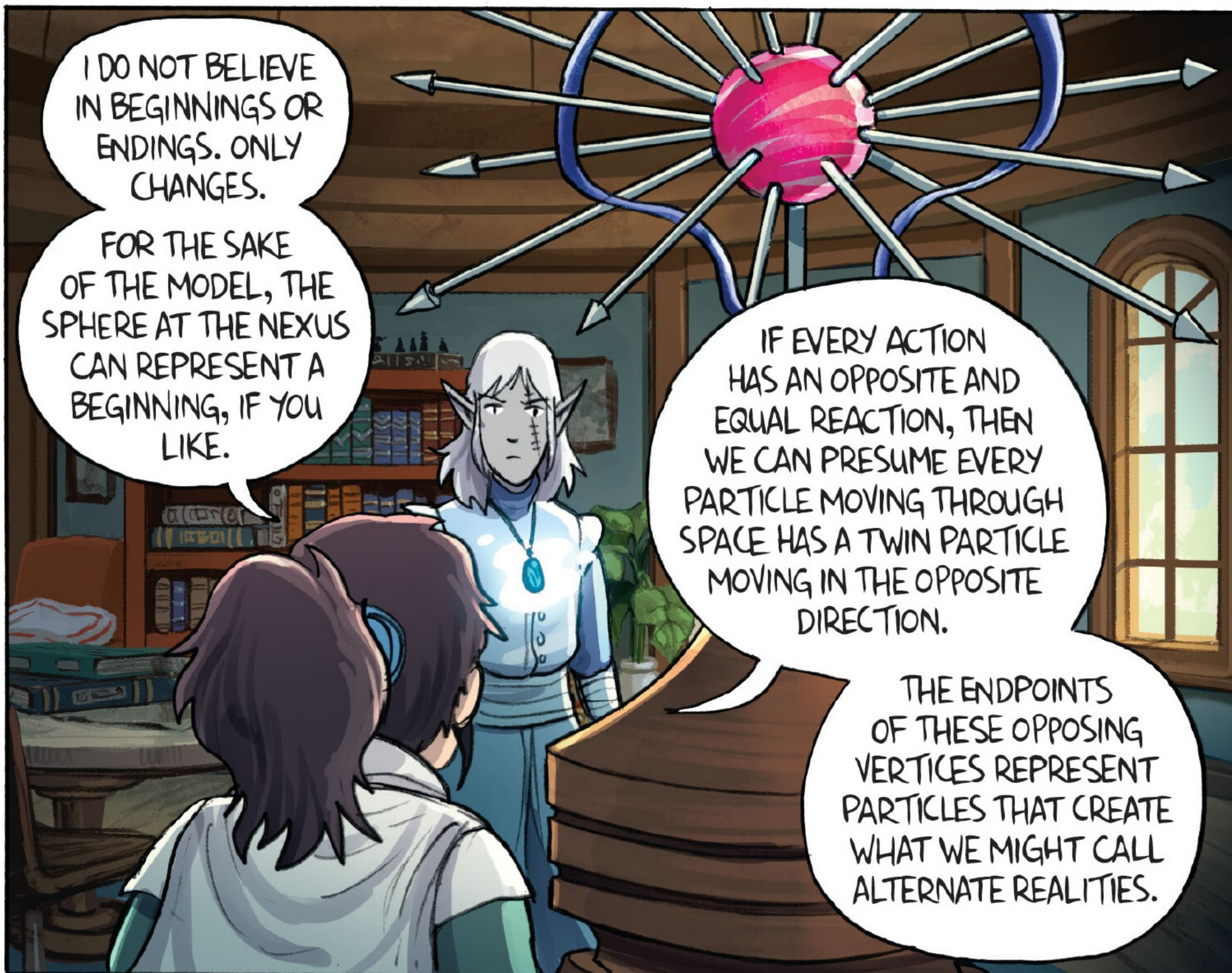
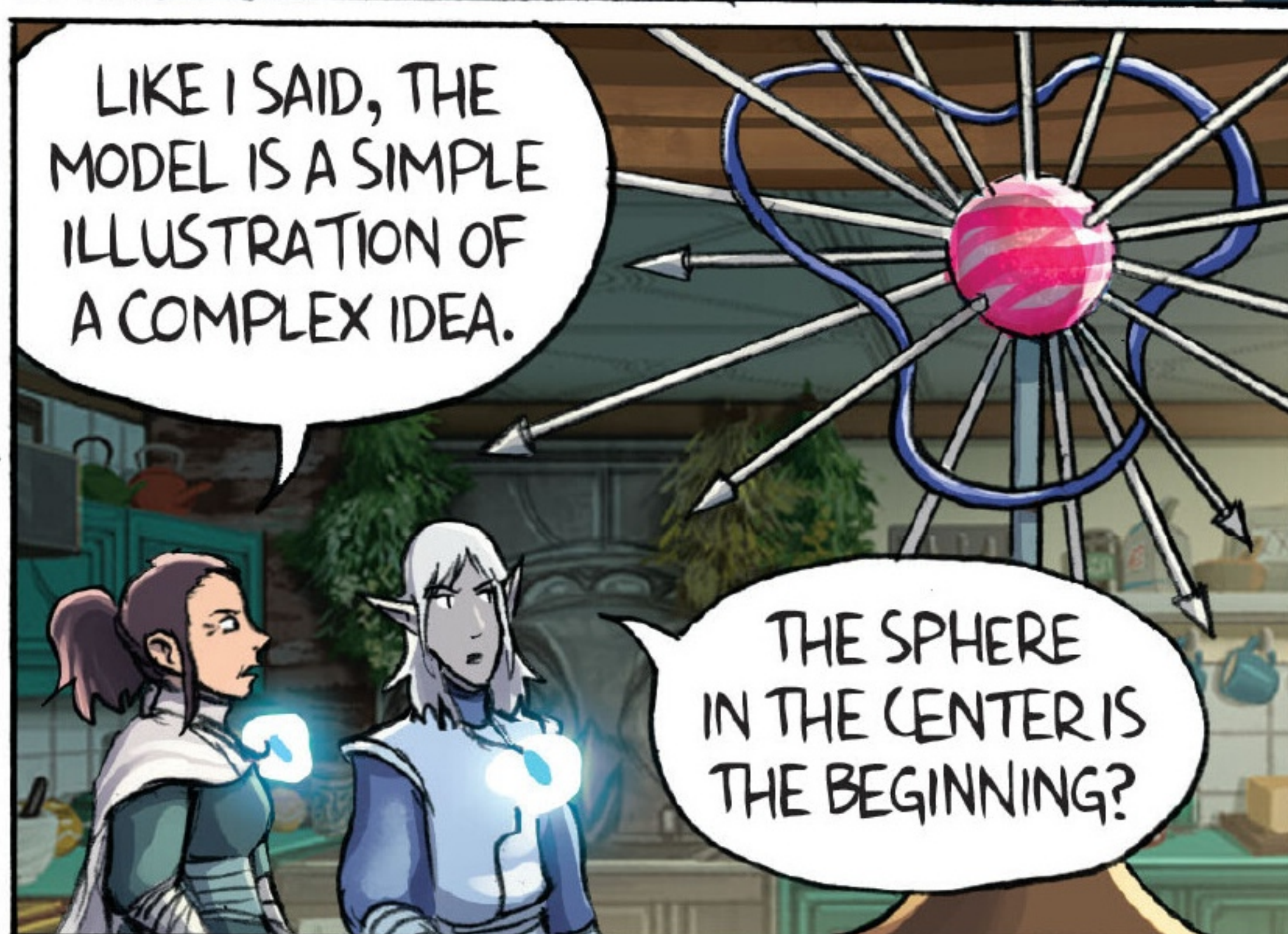
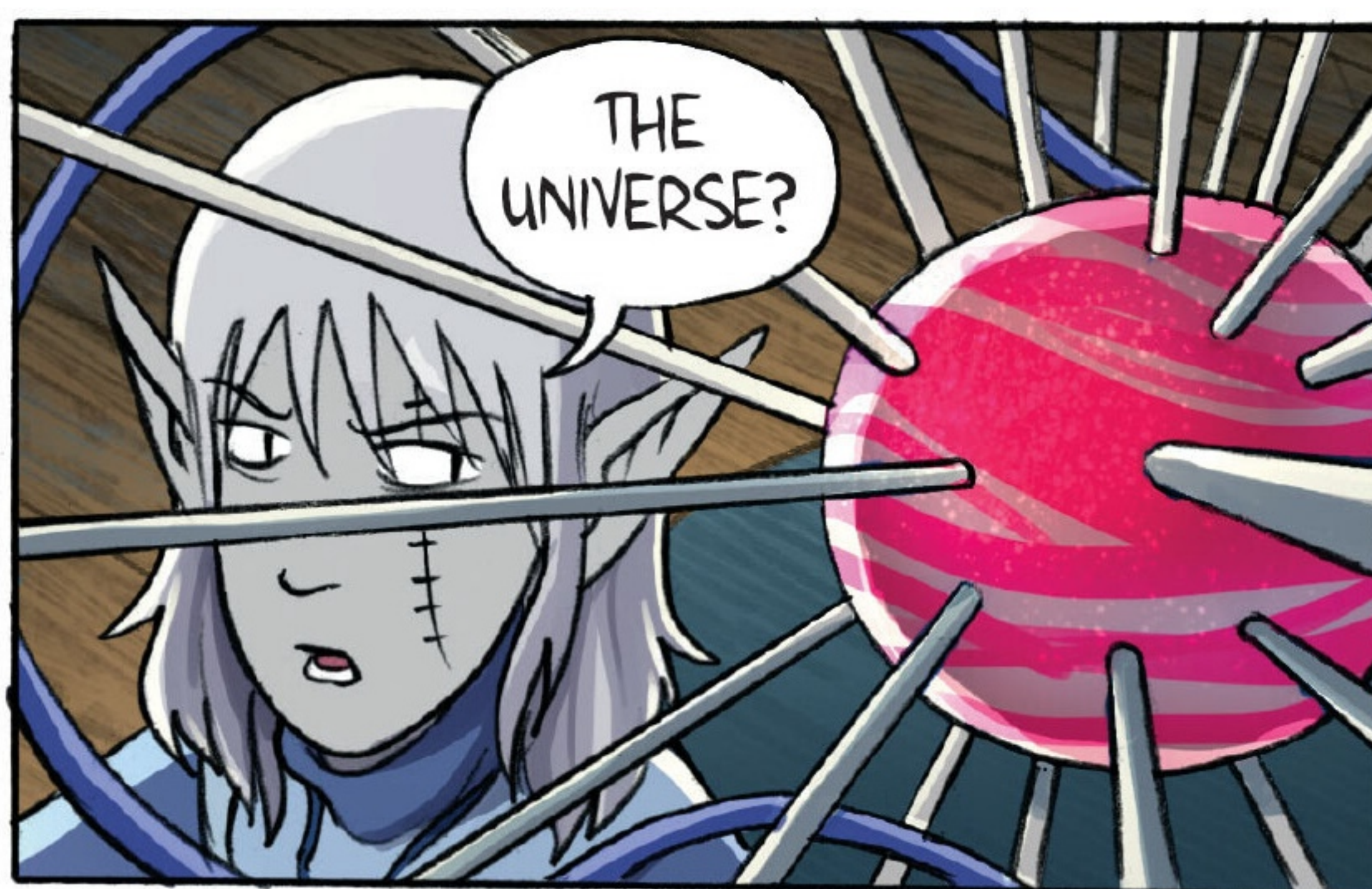


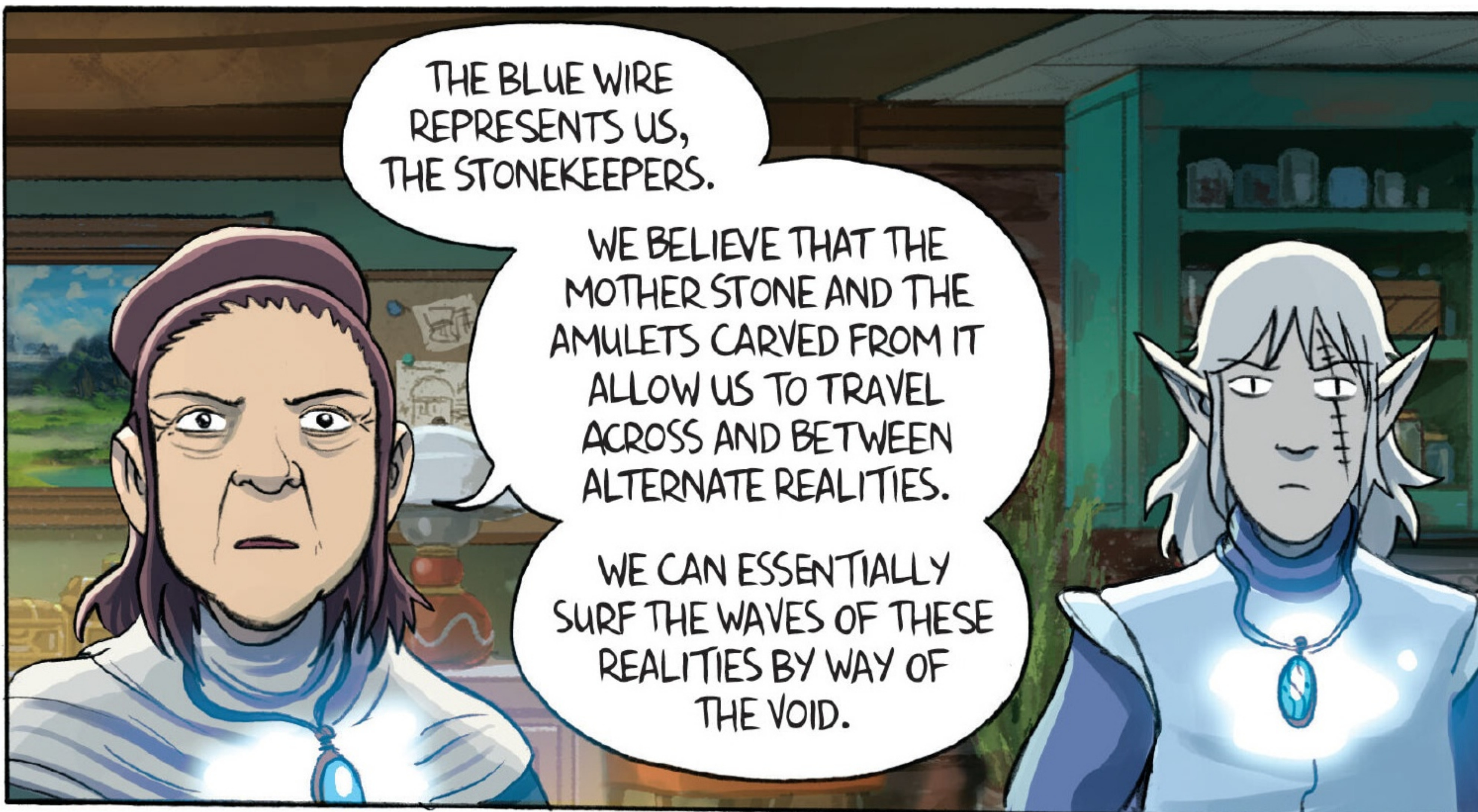












THE BLUE WIRE
REPRESENTS US,
THE STONEKEEPERS.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE
MOTHER STONE AND THE
AMULETS CARVED FROM IT
ALLOW US TO TRAVEL
ACROSS AND BETWEEN
ALTERNATE REALITIES.

WE CAN ESSENTIALLY
SURF THE WAVES OF THESE
REALITIES BY WAY OF
THE VOID.



YOU BELIEVE THE VOID
IS MORE THAN A PLACE
FOR DREAMS AND
MEMORIES?

A KIND OF ROAD
BETWEEN ALTERNATE
REALITIES?



LIKE I SAID,
THIS IS ALL
RESEARCH.

WE ONLY HAVE
THESE SIMPLIFIED
MODELS TO HELP
US UNDERSTAND.



I HONESTLY DON'T
THINK OUR MINDS ARE
STRONG ENOUGH TO
UNDERSTAND HOW
THE VOID WORKS.

THEN YOU
OLD FOLKS CAN
GIVE IT A REST--



SINCE IT'S OUR
TURN TO TRY AND
FIGURE THINGS
OUT.

HEY, IF YOU
WANT RESPECT,
BE RESPECTFUL.



I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY STONEKEEPERS IN ONE PLACE.

I'LL ADMIT THAT I'M FEELING A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE.

RONIN TELLS US YOU'RE HER STUDENTS.

WHAT DO YOU STUDY HERE?



MOST OF OUR TRAINING HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON BUILDING.

FAST CONSTRUCTION WILL BE NEEDED, SO WE ARE PREPARING TO PROVIDE IT.

WE ARE ALSO WORKING ON SHADOW WRANGLING.

SHADOW WRANGLING?



WE BRING PEOPLE OUT OF THE INFLUENCE OF THE SHADOWS.

MANY OF THE MOST PROMISING BUILDERS ARE AFFLICTED, SO WE NEED TO FREE THEM FROM THE DARKNESS AND RECRUIT THEM TO HELP.



WE ARE TRAINED TO EXPEL SHADOWS AND HELP PEOPLE ESCAPE DESPAIR. WHEN WE ARE SUCCESSFUL, THEY BECOME GREAT CONTRIBUTORS TO SOCIETY.



WE HAVE TURNED AROUND ENTIRE VILLAGES THAT HAVE BEEN CURSED.

IF ENOUGH OF THE CURSED TOWNSPEOPLE ARE SKILLED, THEY REBUILD THE TOWN THEMSELVES.

THAT'S WHY SCOUTING AND RESEARCH ARE SO IMPORTANT.

WE HAVE TO PICK THE RIGHT PEOPLE.





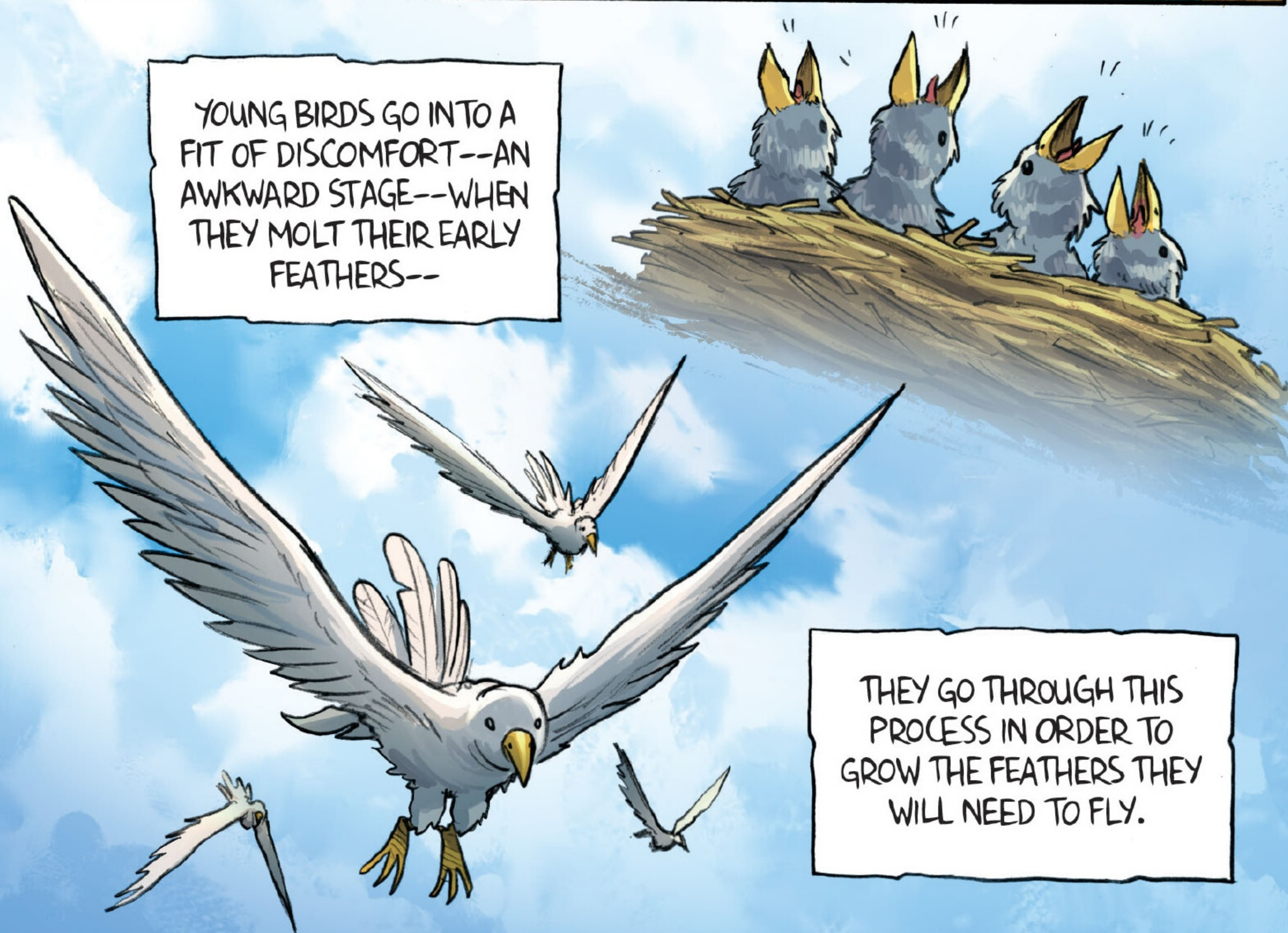
WHEN A STONEKEEPER
SHOWED SIGNS OF BEING
CURSED OR LOSING
CONTROL, THEY WERE
TREATED AS THOUGH
THEY WERE BROKEN.
IN THE WORST
SITUATIONS, THEY
WERE IMPRISONED
OR KILLED.



WHAT SHOULD
WE HAVE DONE?



THE COUNCIL
SHOULD HAVE BEEN
PATIENT WITH
THEM.

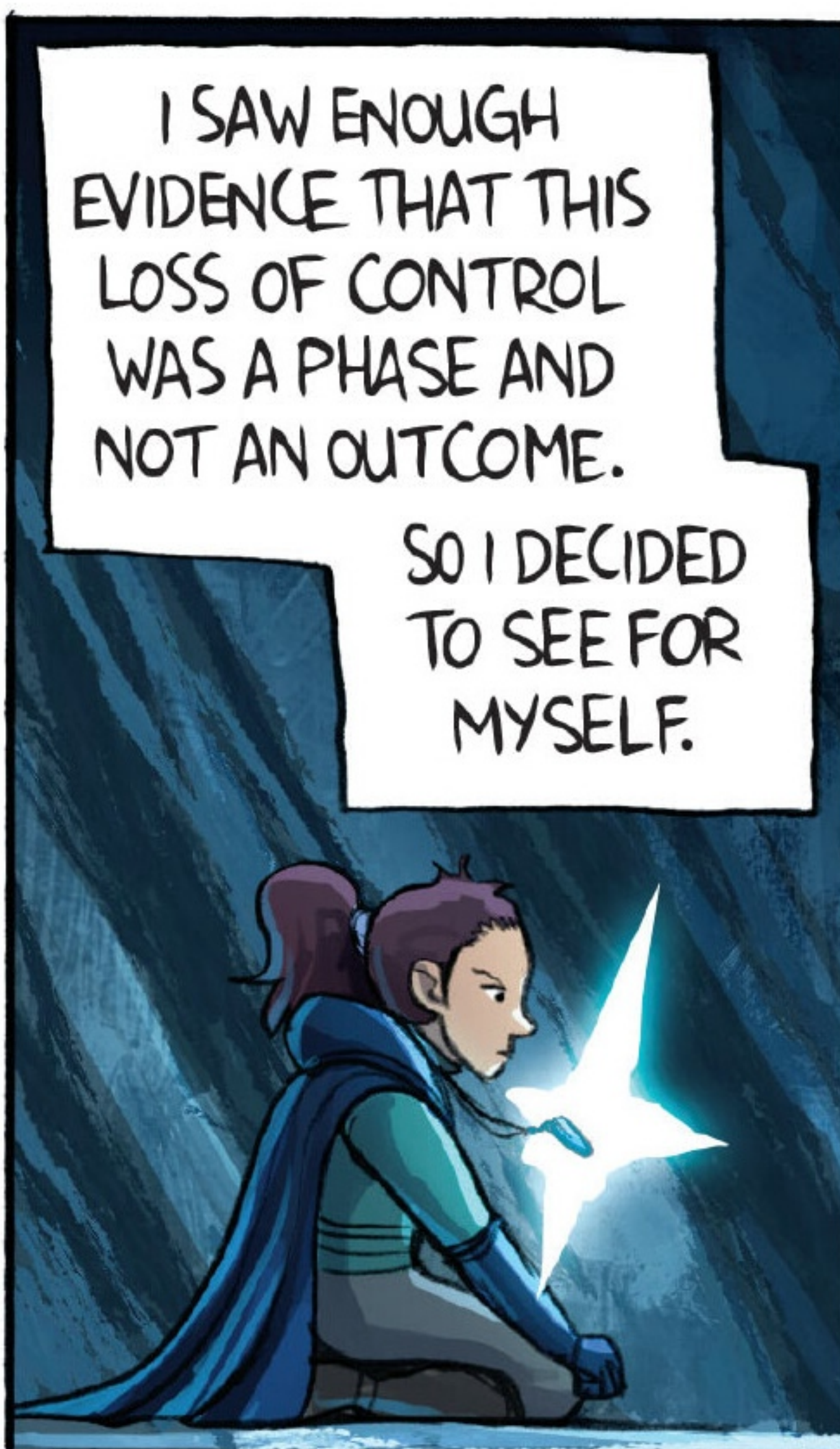


YOUNG BIRDS GO INTO A
FIT OF DISCOMFORT--AN
AWKWARD STAGE--WHEN
THEY MOLT THEIR EARLY
FEATHERS--

THEY GO THROUGH THIS
PROCESS IN ORDER TO
GROW THE FEATHERS THEY
WILL NEED TO FLY.



THE COUNCIL SAW
STONEKEEPERS LOSING
CONTROL AS A SIGN OF
FAILURE OR SICKNESS,
BUT I SUSPECTED
THEY WERE
WRONG.



I SAW ENOUGH
EVIDENCE THAT THIS
LOSS OF CONTROL
WAS A PHASE AND
NOT AN OUTCOME.

SO I DECIDED
TO SEE FOR
MYSELF.



AND I LET MYSELF
LOSE CONTROL OF
MY POWER.



I FOUND MYSELF IN
A STRANGE VERSION
OF THE VOID.

AND I WAS
TESTED.

I DON'T RECALL THE
DETAILS OF MY
JOURNEY,

BUT I MANAGED
TO FIND MY WAY
BACK.



UPON MY RETURN,
I FELT DIFFERENT.

I FELT LIKE I HAD
A CLEAR VISION FOR
MY PURPOSE IN
THIS LIFE.

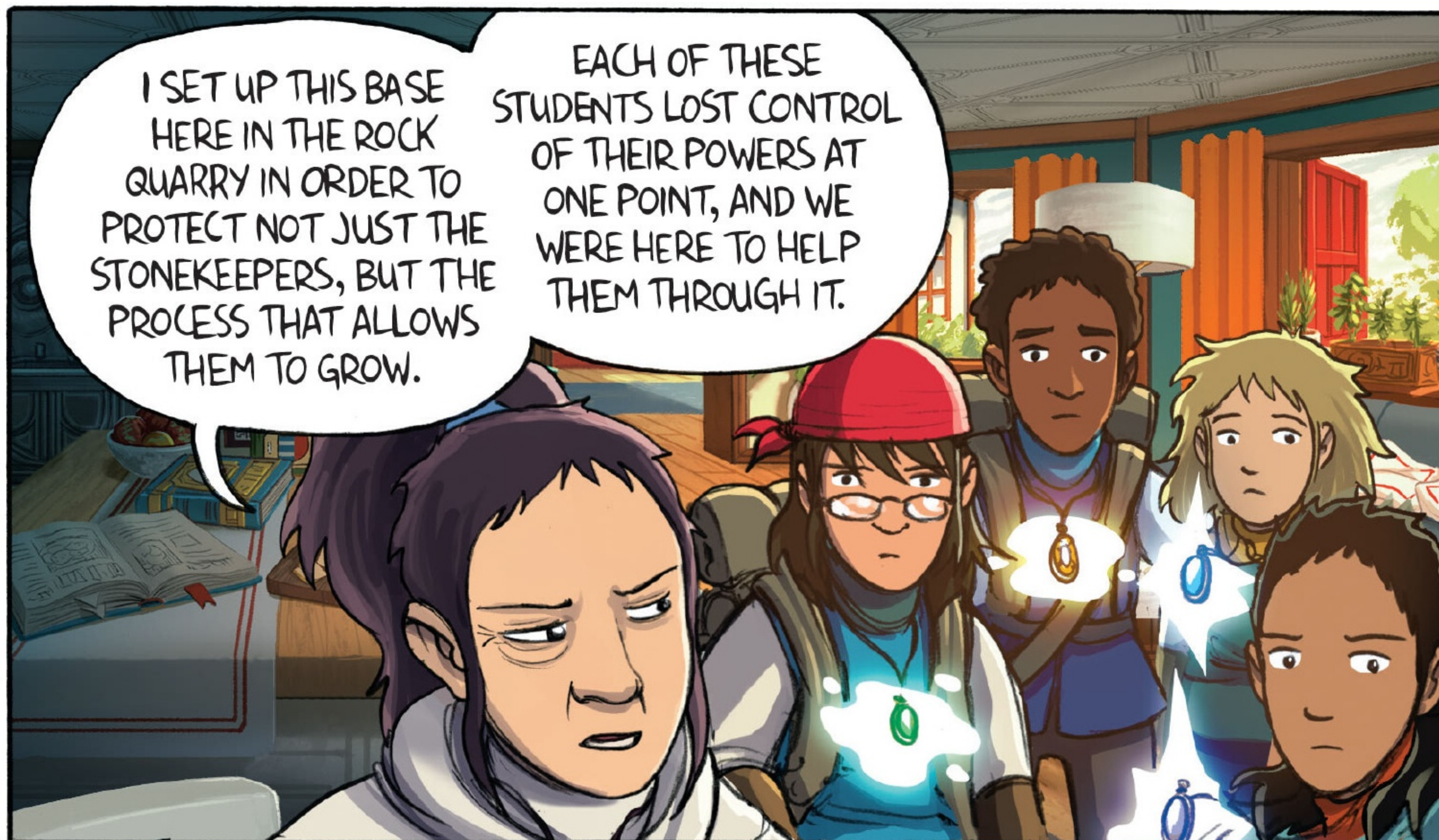
I KNEW WHAT
I NEEDED TO DO.



I WOULD NEED TO
TRAIN NEW BUILDERS,
AND I WOULD NEED TO
TRAIN THEM TO TRAVEL
ON A DIFFICULT PATH.

AND I NEEDED
TO DO IT MYSELF.

THAT'S WHEN
I LEFT THE
COUNCIL.





JANIS TURNS INTO
A KIND OF MONSTER
INSECT.

I SUGGEST NOT
GETTING ON HER
BAD SIDE.

MY NAME IS
BREN, AND MY FORM
IS PROBABLY THE
SILLIEST ONE.

SILLIEST?

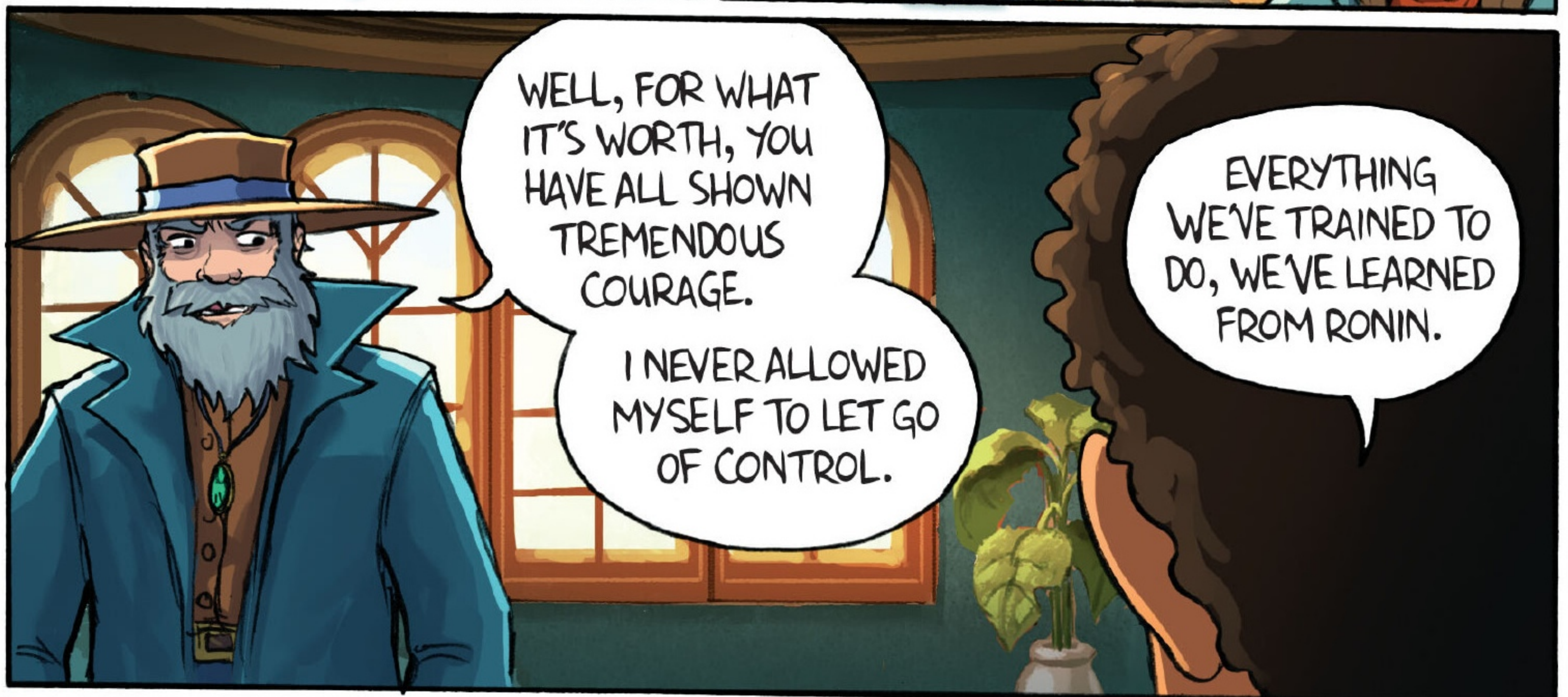


BREN TURNS
INTO A GIANT
TURTLE.
IT'S ACTUALLY
VERY CUTE.



HEY, IT CAN
BE SCARY!

IN AN
ADORABLE
WAY,
YES.



WELL, FOR WHAT
IT'S WORTH, YOU
HAVE ALL SHOWN
TREMENDOUS
COURAGE.

I NEVER ALLOWED
MYSELF TO LET GO
OF CONTROL.

EVERYTHING
WE'VE TRAINED TO
DO, WE'VE LEARNED
FROM RONIN.



AND NOW IT IS
TIME TO PUT ALL OUR
THEORIES INTO
PRACTICE.

WE ARE GOING TO
BE THROWN INTO THE
FIRE WITHOUT MUCH TIME
TO GAIN FAMILIARITY WITH
OUR SURROUNDINGS.

VIGO--
WHERE DO
WE BEGIN?



WE START
BY HELPING RIVA
ASH REBUILD THE
CITY OF LUCIEN
ABOVEGROUND.

WE NEED TO
DESIGN IT TO ALLOW
CIELIS TO RETURN TO ITS
PROPER LOCATION.



THE REUNIFICATION
OF THE TWO CITIES
AND THE RETURN OF
THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL
WILL SIGNIFY A NEW
ERA OF PEACE IN
ALLEDIA.

THAT
SOUNDS GREAT,
BUT--

WHAT DO
WE DO ABOUT
THE SHADOWS?



DARK FORCES WILL
ALWAYS EXIST AND
WORK AGAINST YOU.

WE WILL HAVE TO
CONTINUE OUR WORK
WHILE FIGHTING BACK
THE SHADOWS.



VIGO'S RIGHT.

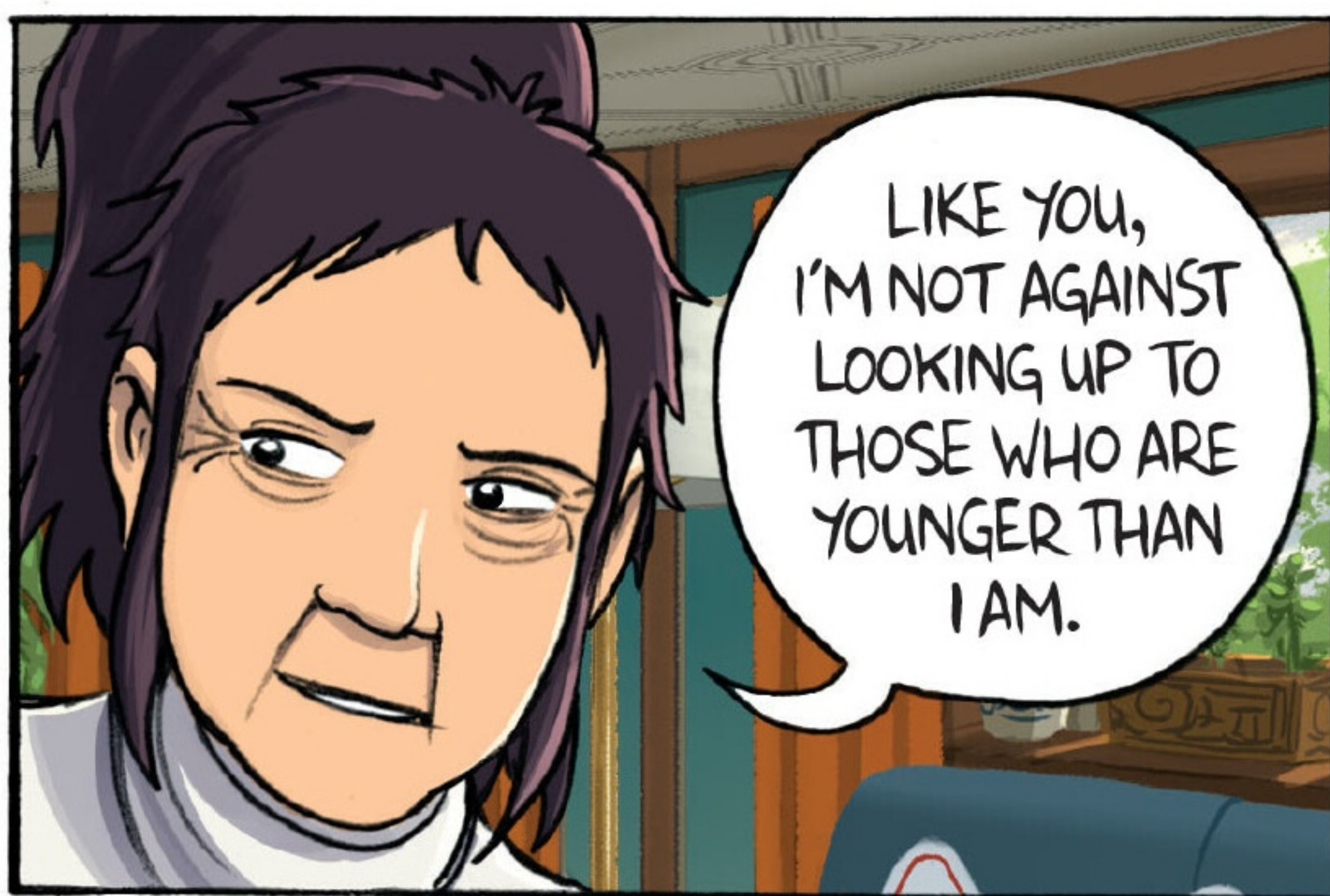
THE DARKNESS
WILL ALWAYS EXIST
AROUND EVERY
CORNER,
BUT WE
CAN'T LET THAT
DETER US.



THIS BATTLE WILL BE
WON THROUGH PATIENCE
AND SLOW, MEASURED
STEPS FORWARD.

WE BUILD. DEFEND.
AND WE KEEP MOVING
FORWARD.



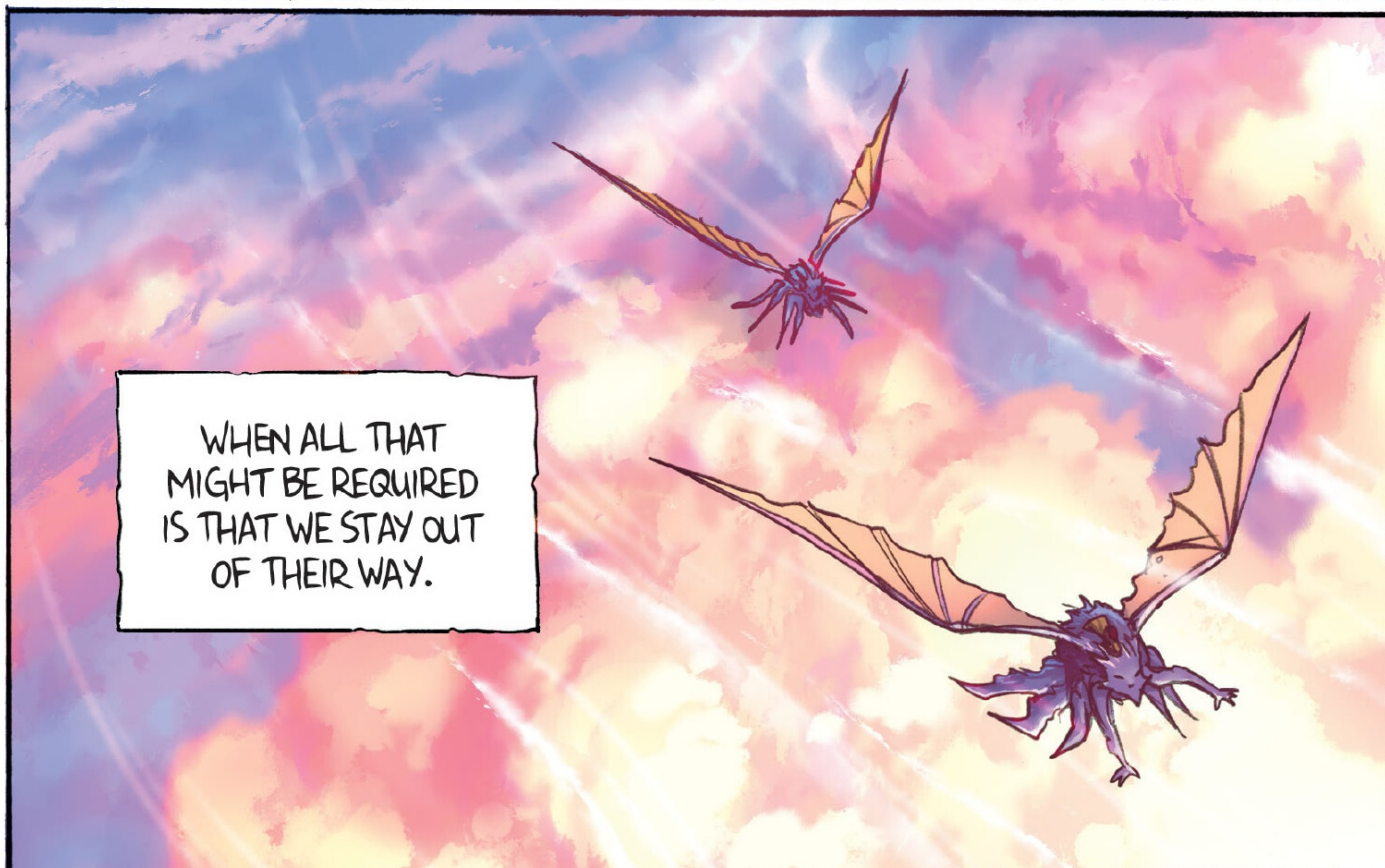




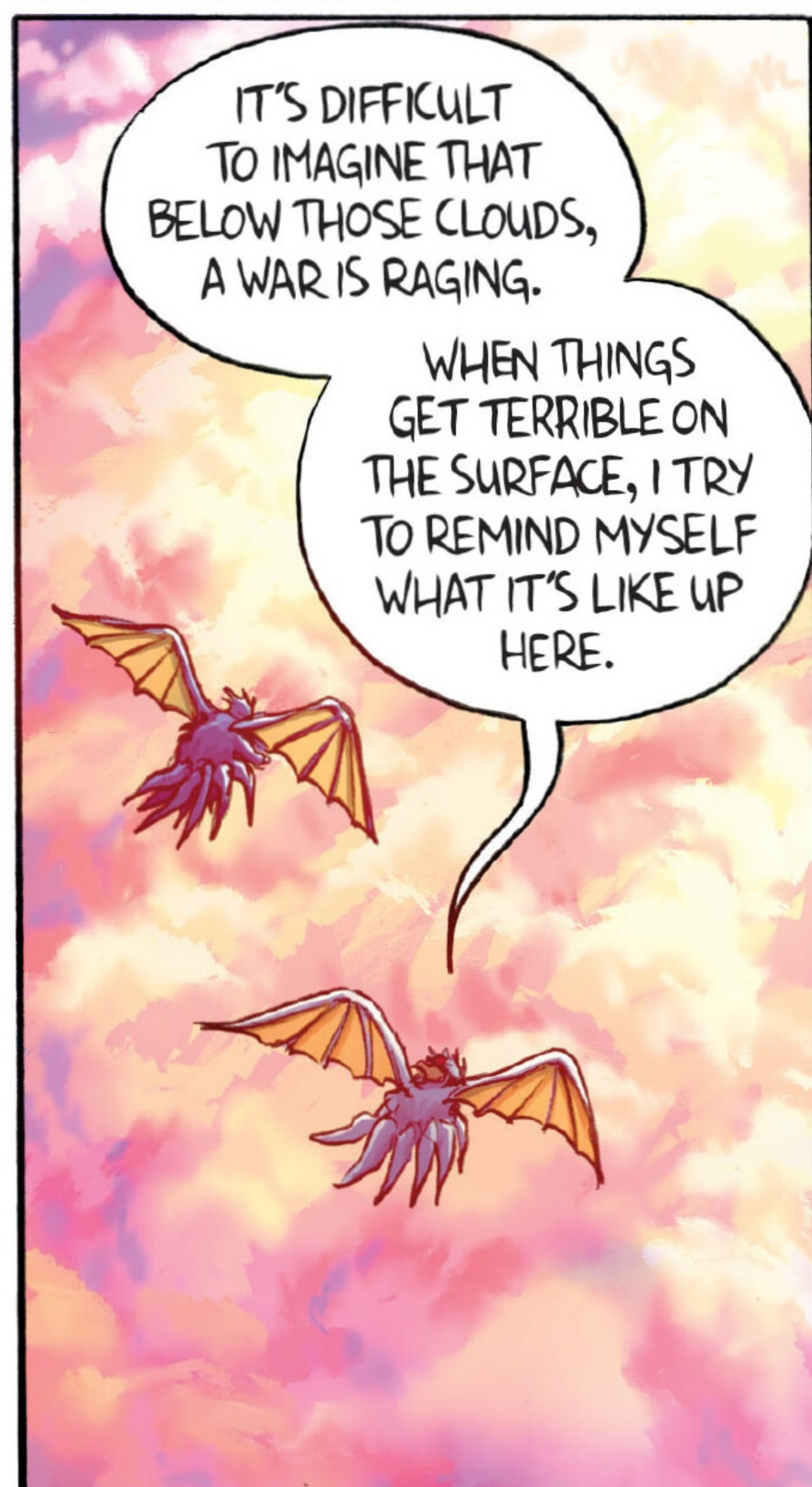
JUST REMEMBER
THAT IT WAS RONIN
WHO TAUGHT HERSELF
ALL OF THIS, AND SHE IS
THE ONE WHO TAUGHT
THESE KIDS.

IT WASN'T
VIGO, HER TEACHER,
OR ANYONE ELSE.

WE ARE SO
CONCERNED ABOUT
WHETHER WE ARE
DOING ENOUGH--



WHEN ALL THAT
MIGHT BE REQUIRED
IS THAT WE STAY OUT
OF THEIR WAY.











CALA?

CORA?



YOUR FRIENDS
CANNOT HEAR
YOU.

IKOL.





IT IS TIME
FOR YOU TO
CHOOSE A
PATH.



YOU SPEAK
AS IF YOU ARE
IN CONTROL.

YOU HAVE NO
POWER OVER ME,
IKOL.



YOU ARE
RIGHT.

BUT WE ARE
BOTH SERVANTS
OF MY MASTERS.



WHO ARE THESE
MASTERS YOU KEEP
TALKING ABOUT?

THEY EXIST
AROUND US BUT
ARE NOT SEEN.



YOUR KIND
ARE NOT READY
TO KNOW THEM.



MY KIND?
YOU MEAN
HUMANS?

AMONG
OTHERS.



WHAT ABOUT
ME?
AM I READY
TO KNOW WHO
THEY ARE?



I CAN SHOW
YOU HOW TO
CONTACT THEM.

YES.
SHOW
ME.

MY MASTERS DO
NOT COMMUNICATE
WITH JUST ANYONE.

THEY ARE
SELECTIVE.

AND THEY HAVE
TAKEN AN INTEREST
IN YOU.

THEY KNOW
WHO I AM?

THEY HAVE BEEN
WATCHING YOUR
JOURNEY CLOSELY.

WHAT DO
THEY WANT?

THEY NEED
YOUR HELP.

THEIR HOME PLANET
IS LOCATED IN A NEARBY
GALAXY AND IT IS DYING.

THEY ARE HERE TO SEE IF
OTHER LIFE-FORMS CAN
SUCCEED WHERE THEY
HAVE FAILED.

WHAT
HAPPENED
THERE?

THEIR HABITAT
IS COMPROMISED
AND THEY WANT TO
REVERSE COURSE.

THEY ARE
HOPING SOMEONE
HERE CAN HELP
THEM FIND A
SOLUTION.

WHERE
ARE THEY
NOW?

THEY ARE
RIGHT HERE IN
THIS ROOM.

THEY EXIST ON A
PARALLEL TIMELINE
THAT CAN BE ACCESSED
BY THE POWER OF
THE STONE.

YOUR POWERS
CAN GENERATE WAVES
OF ENERGY THAT YOU
MAY USE TO SHINE
A LIGHT ON THIS
HIDDEN WORLD.

IT WILL SIMPLY
REQUIRE FINDING THE
RIGHT WAVELENGTH
AND INFUSING IT
WITH ENERGY.





PINNG!!
PINNG!!
PIN

PINNG

GPINNG! PINN

THESE
SHADOWS--

ARE YOUR
MASTERS STANDING
IN FRONT OF ME?

PINGPINGPING PINGPING



PING!!

ARE THEY--
MACHINES?

YES.

IKOL--

ARE YOU A
PROGRAM?

THAT IS
CORRECT.

I HAVE TAKEN MY
NAME FROM THE
PLACE I WAS BORN.
THE INTELLIGENT
KINEMATIC OPERATIONS
LABORATORY. ALSO
KNOWN AS IKOL.

YOU AND THE
MASTERS ARE NOT
FROM TYPHON,
ARE YOU?

NO.

WE ARE
NOT.

WE ARE
LIKE YOU--





YOU HAVE TOLD
ME REPEATEDLY
TO FIND MY
FAMILY--

BUT THE CLOSEST
THING I HAVE TO A
FAMILY--

IS YOU.

THE PLANET
THEY NEED HELP
WITH--

IT'S EARTH,
ISN'T IT?

YES.

YOU HAVE
BEEN ON A LONG
JOURNEY TO
UNDERSTANDING
YOUR POWER.

IT IS NOW
TIME FOR YOU
TO GO HOME.

WE HAVE TO LEAVE THESE PLANETS IN BETTER SHAPE THAN WE FOUND THEM.

WE DON'T LEAVE UNTIL WE DO THAT.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, EMILY.

BUT IF WE DON'T STOP THE CONFLICT HERE, IT WILL FIND ITS WAY BACK TO EARTH.

I KNOW.

PING!!

I AM GOING TO NEED YOUR MASTERS' HELP.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY OF YOU ARE OUT THERE--

BUT I NEED YOU TO GO FIND MY FAMILY AND LET THEM KNOW WHERE I AM.

NOD.

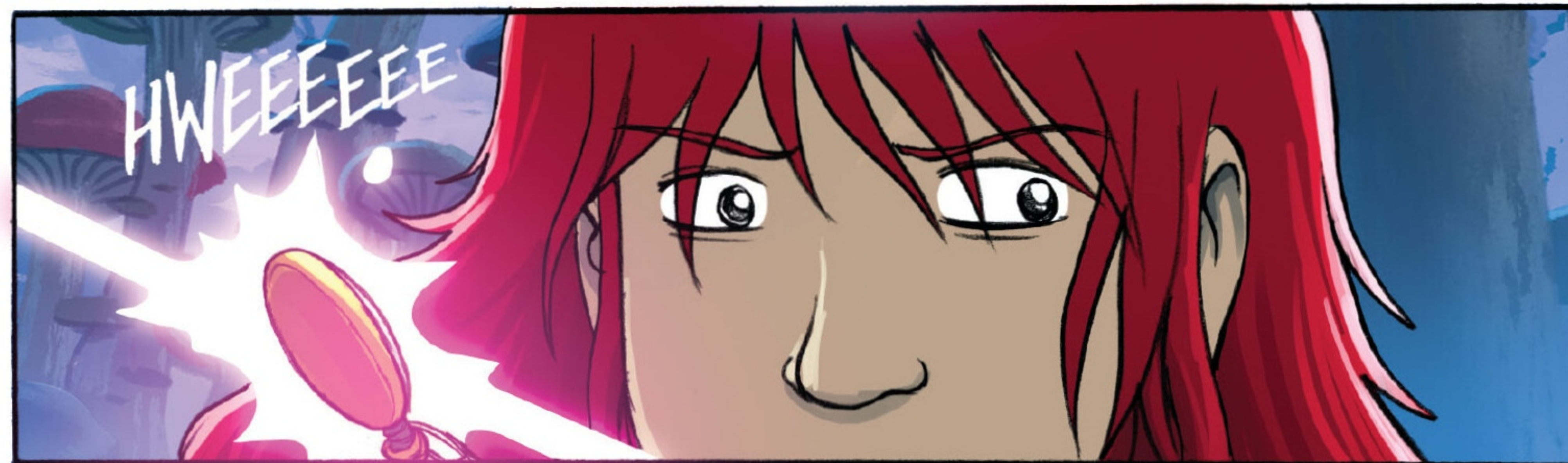
BRING US BACK TOGETHER.

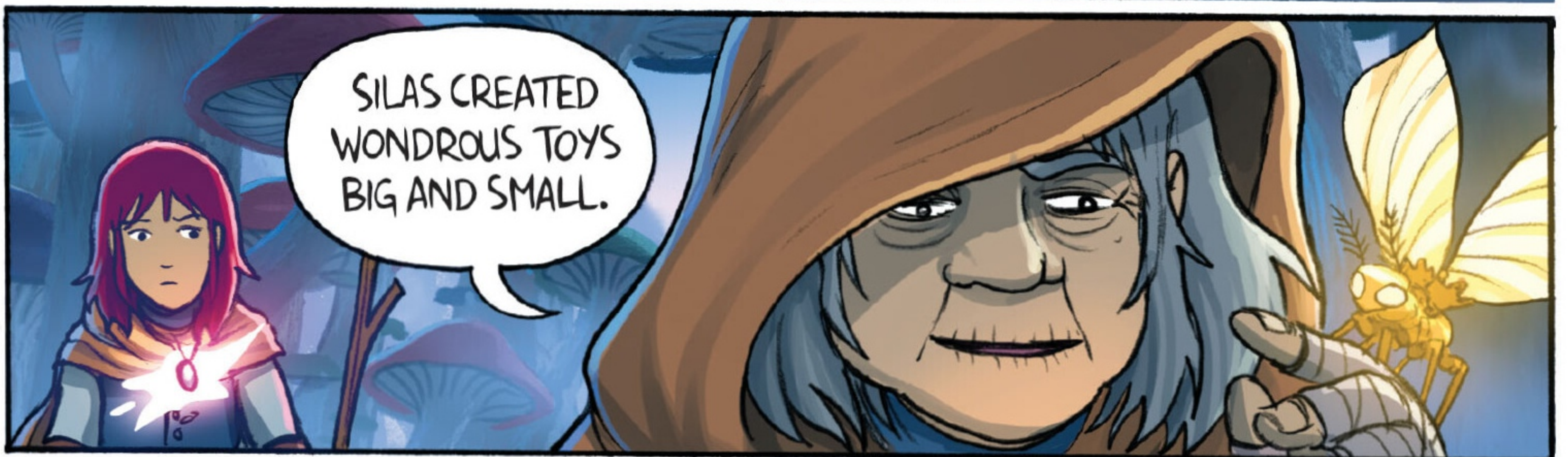


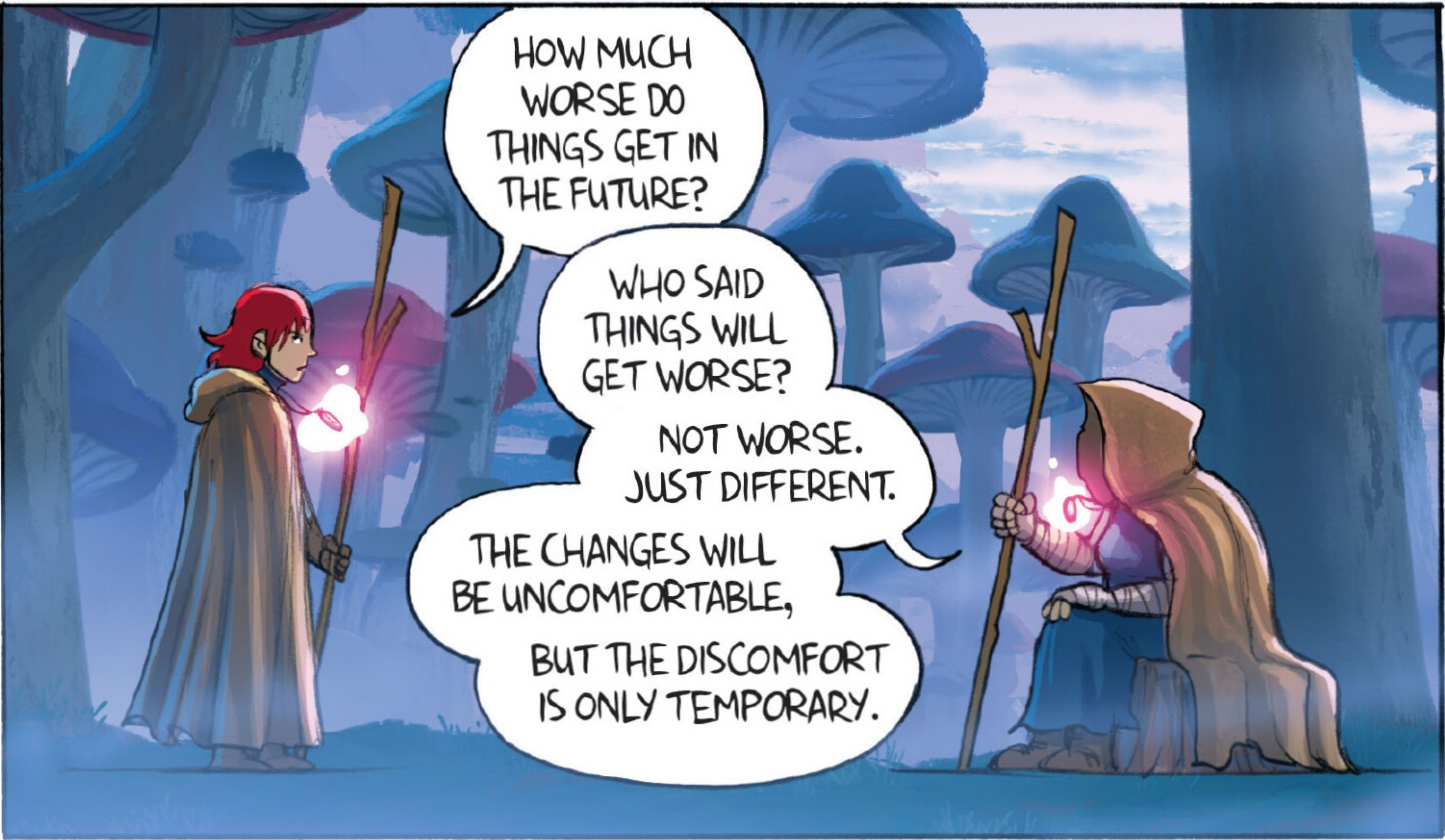


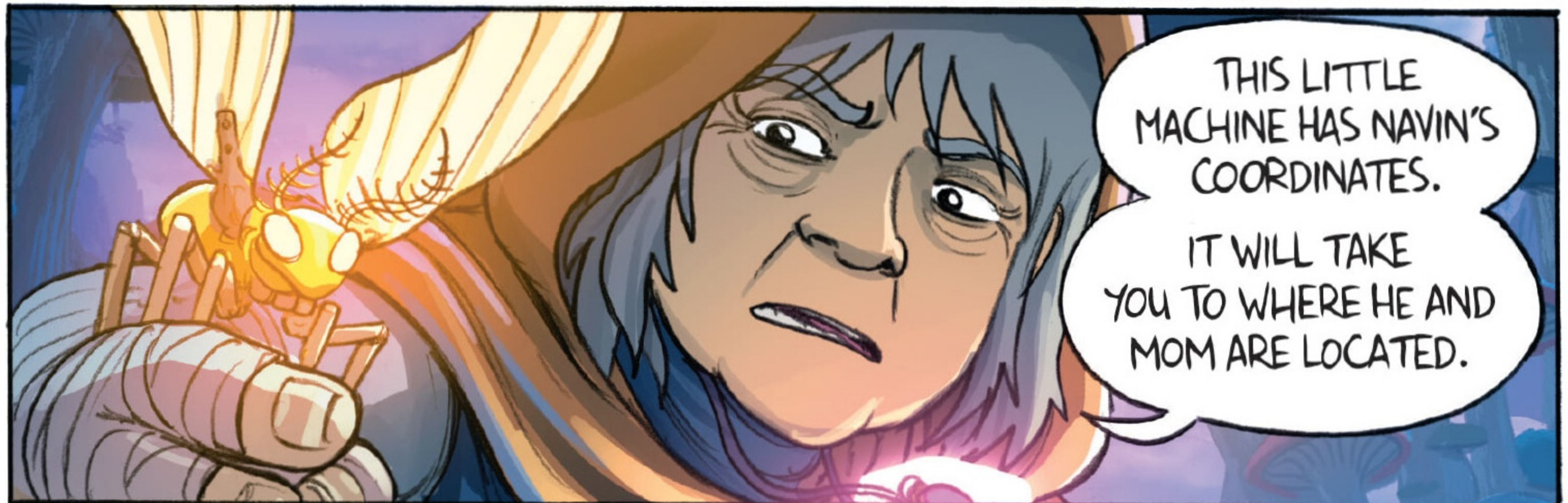
Z.

Z.

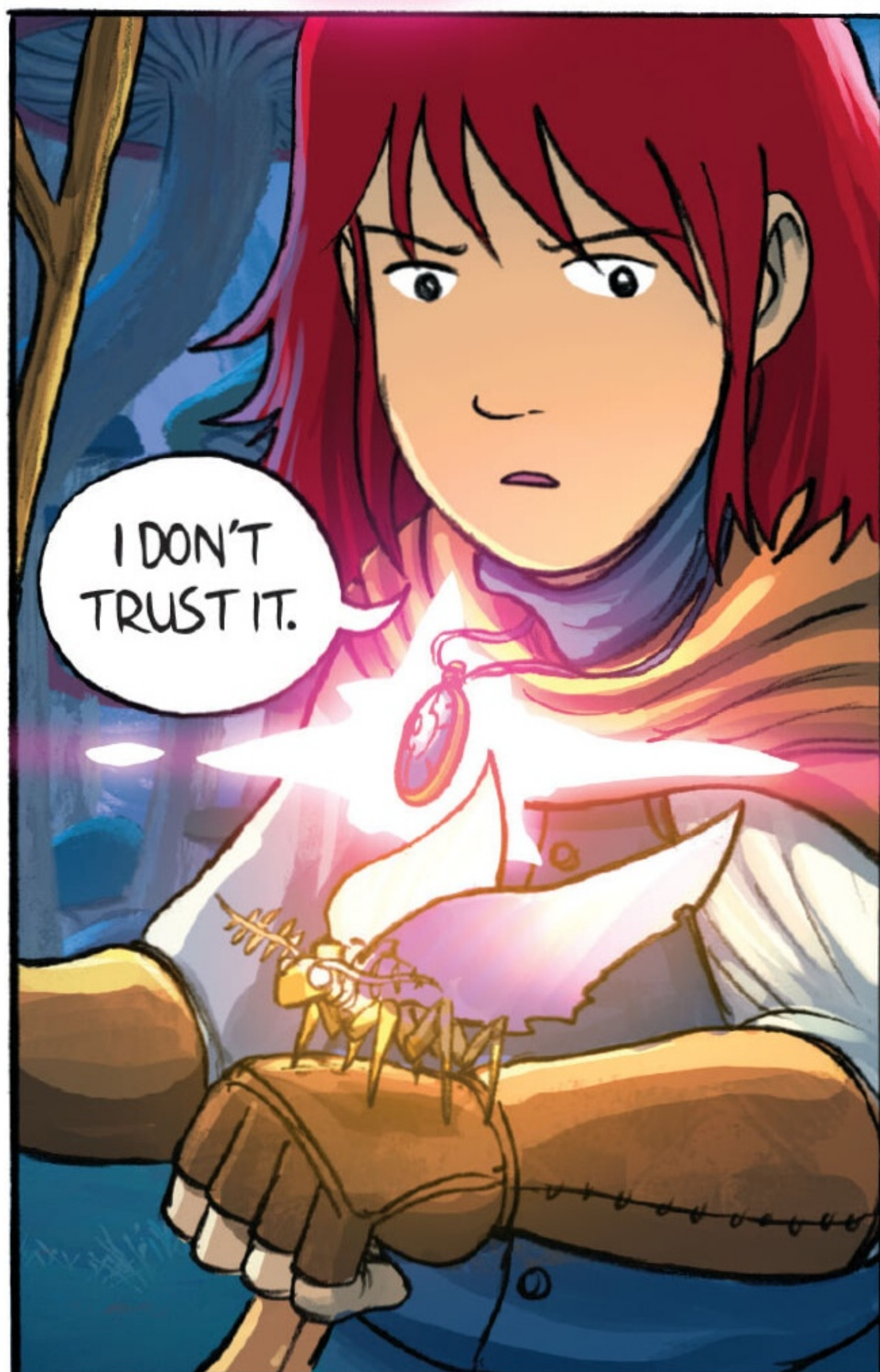
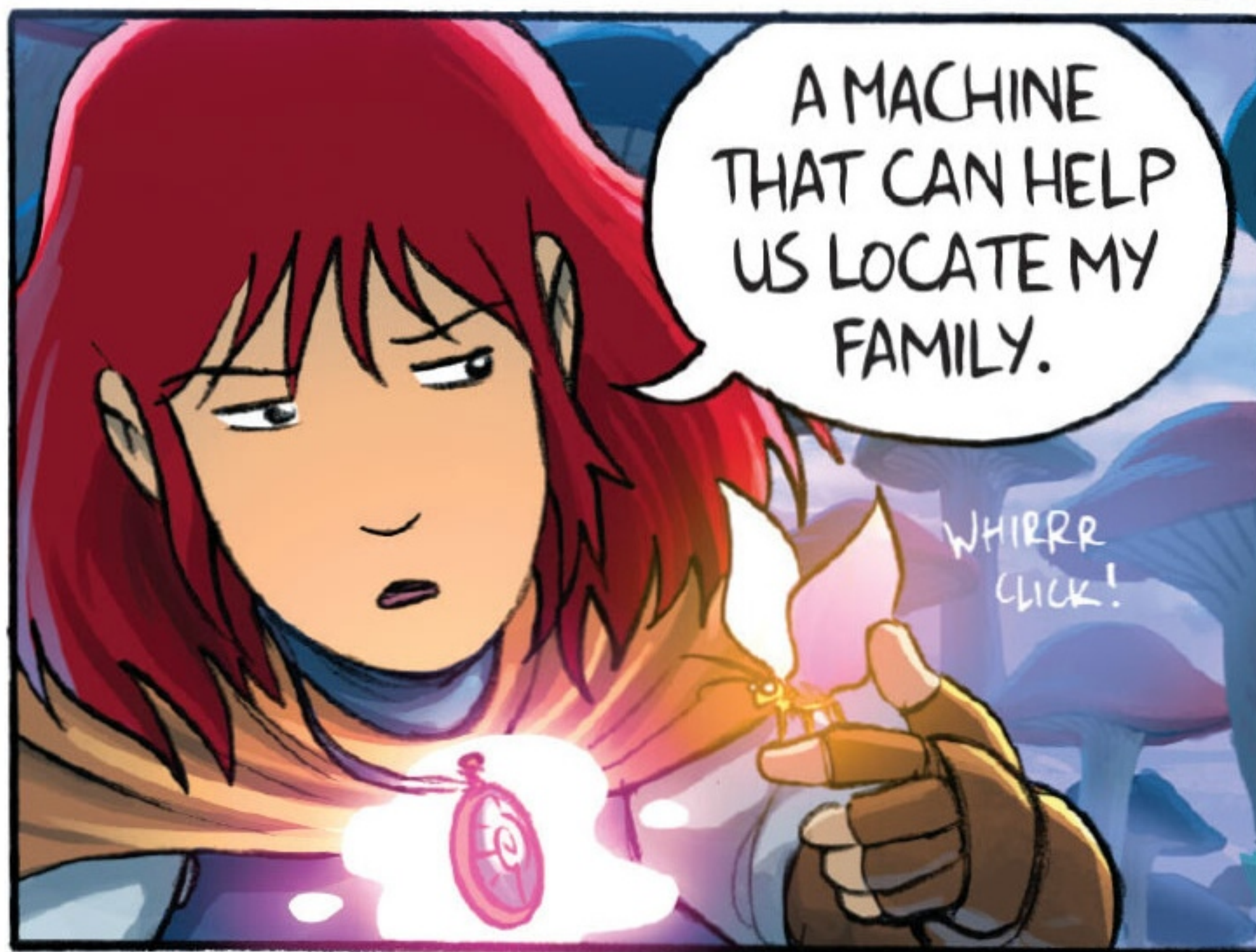


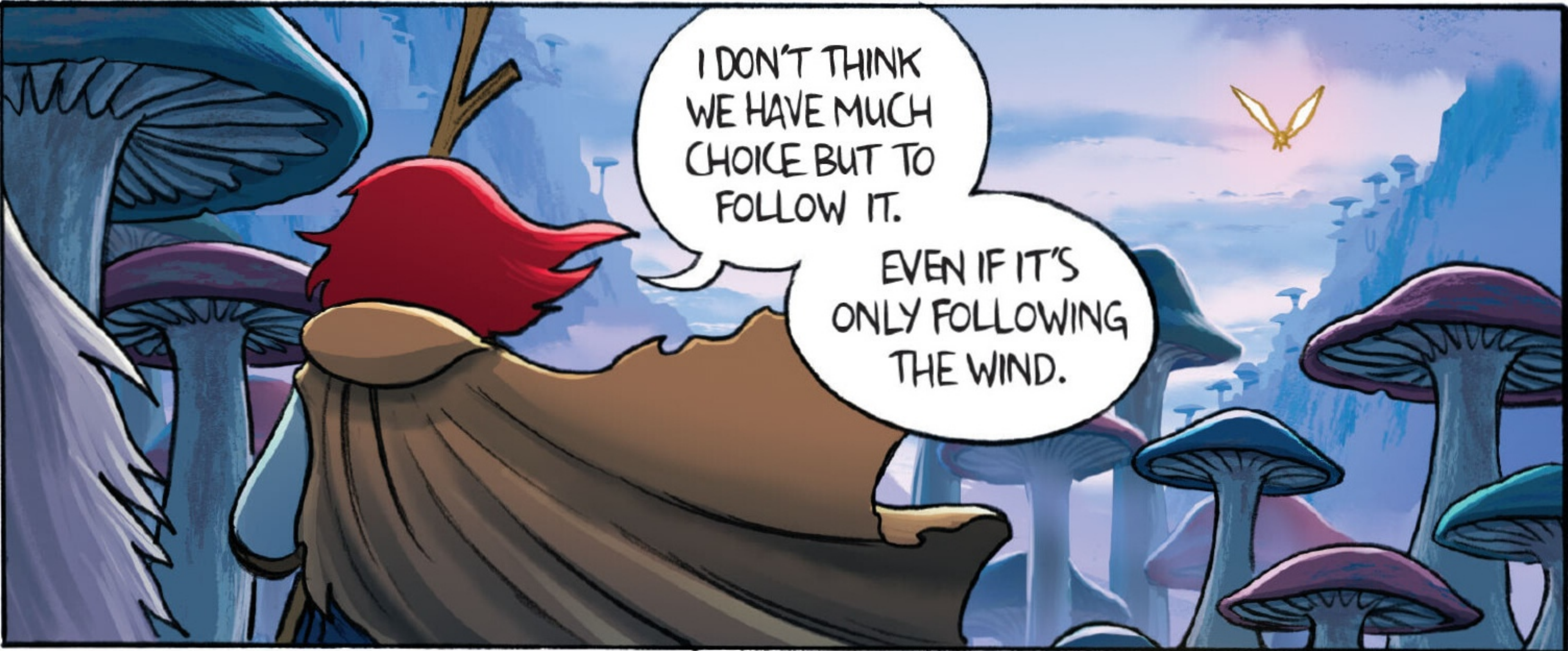












I DON'T THINK WE HAVE MUCH CHOICE BUT TO FOLLOW IT.

EVEN IF IT'S ONLY FOLLOWING THE WIND.



THEN WE WILL RIDE ALONG WITH YOU AND THE WIND.

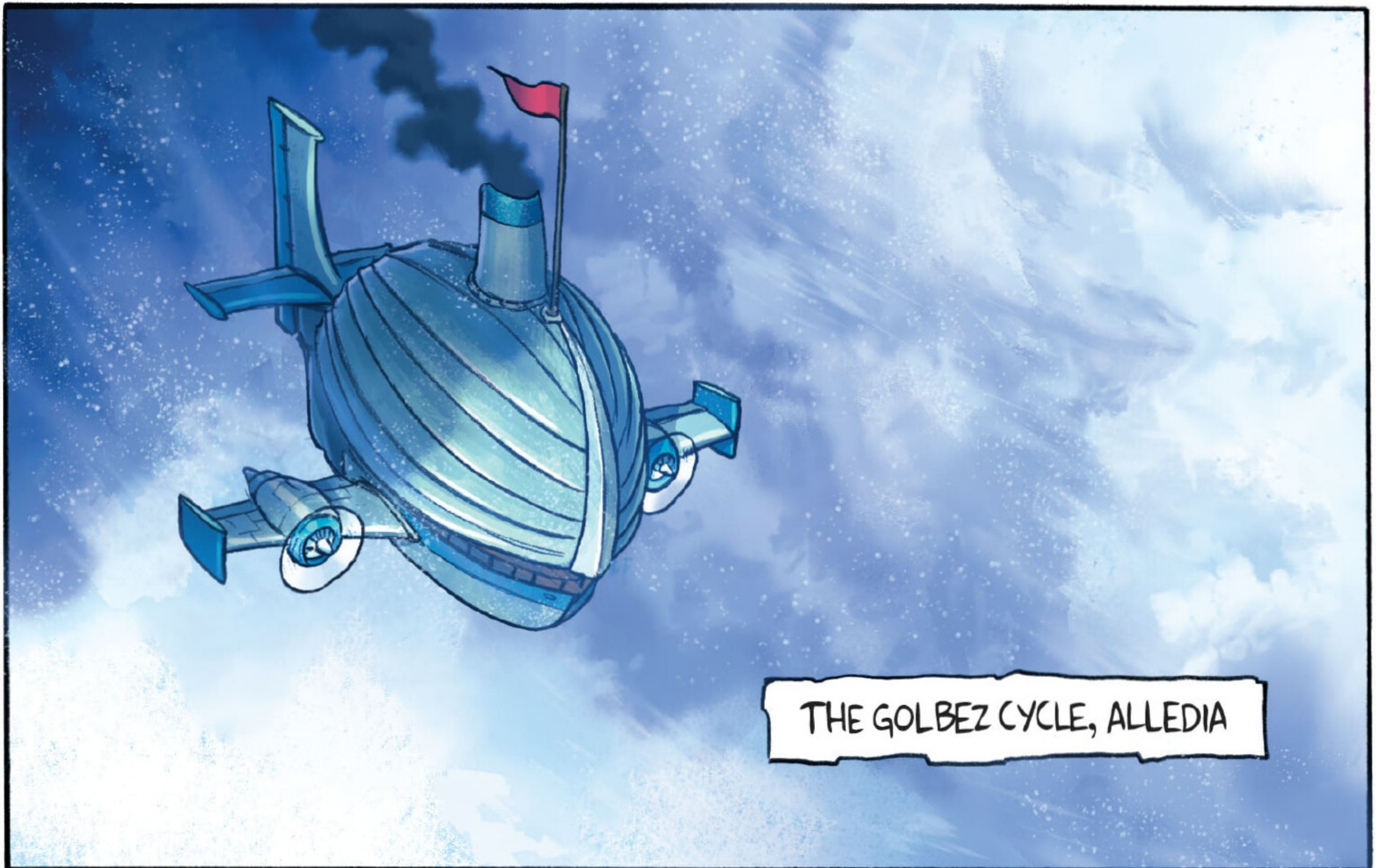


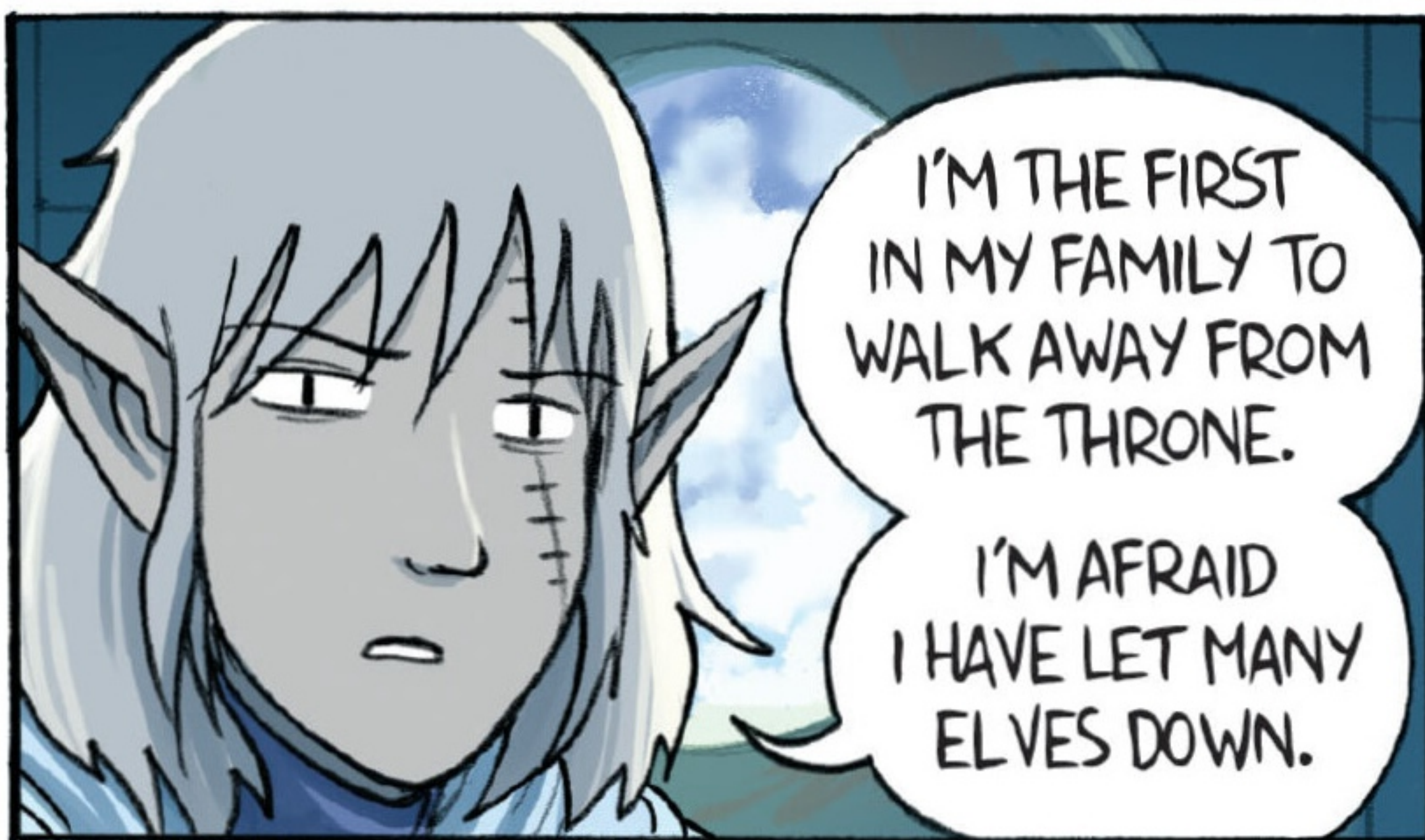
THANK YOU, CORA.
I APPRECIATE YOUR COMPANY.

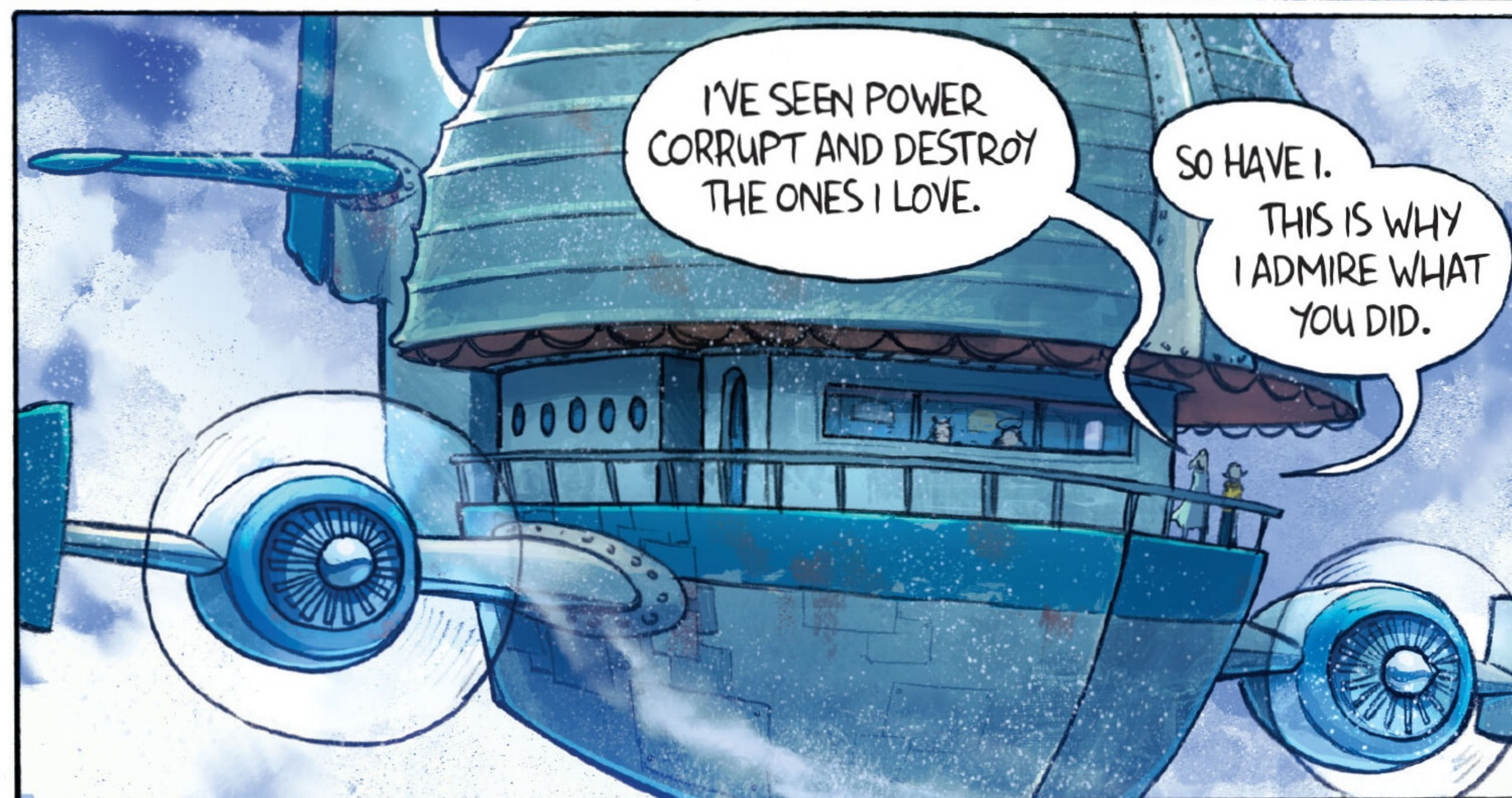


THESE TIMES REMIND ME OF SOMETHING OUR PARENTS USED TO TELL US.

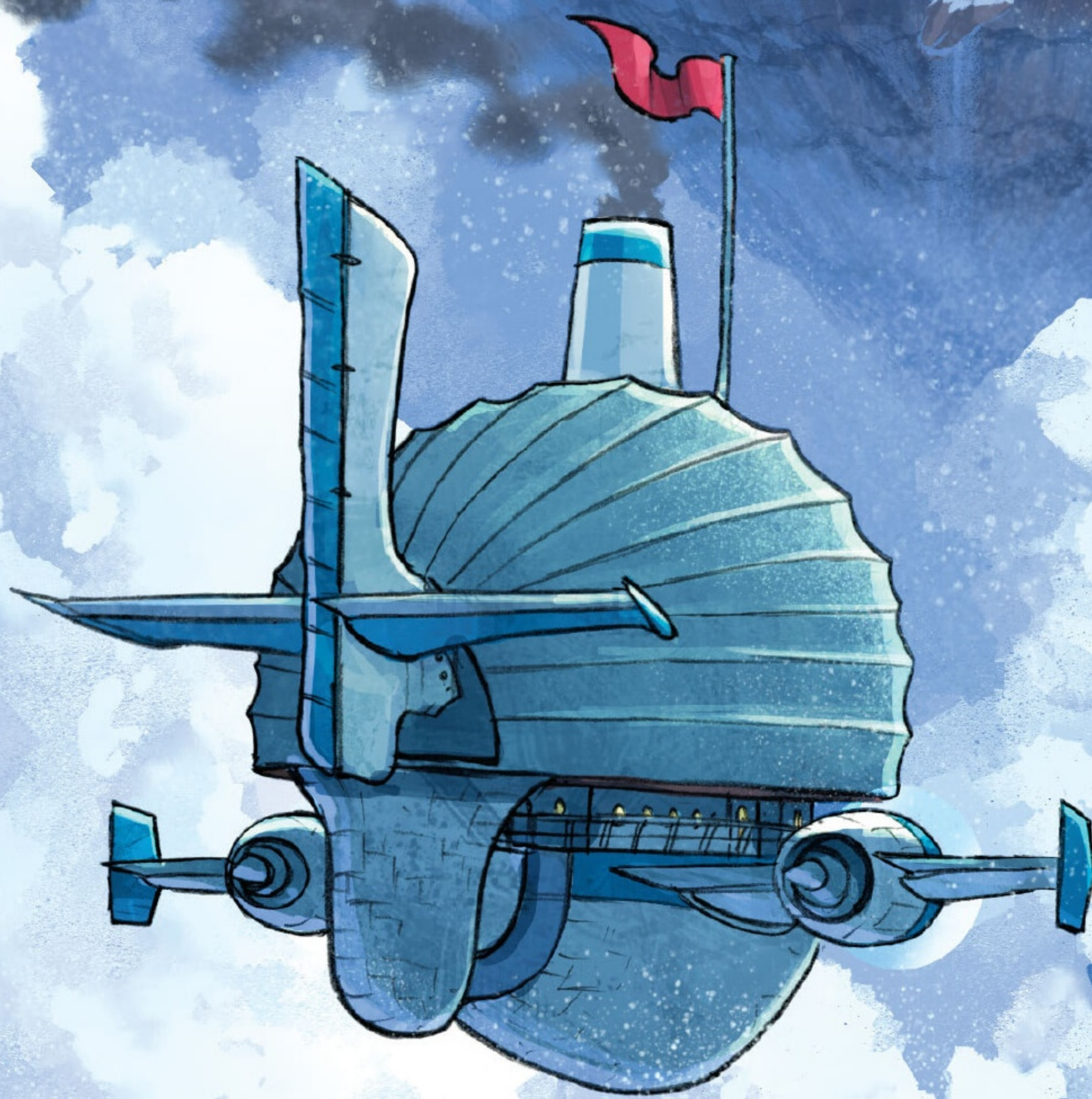
THAT OUR SURVIVAL MAY HINGE ON THE ACTIONS OF OTHERS WHO ARE FAR AWAY OR NOT SEEN.



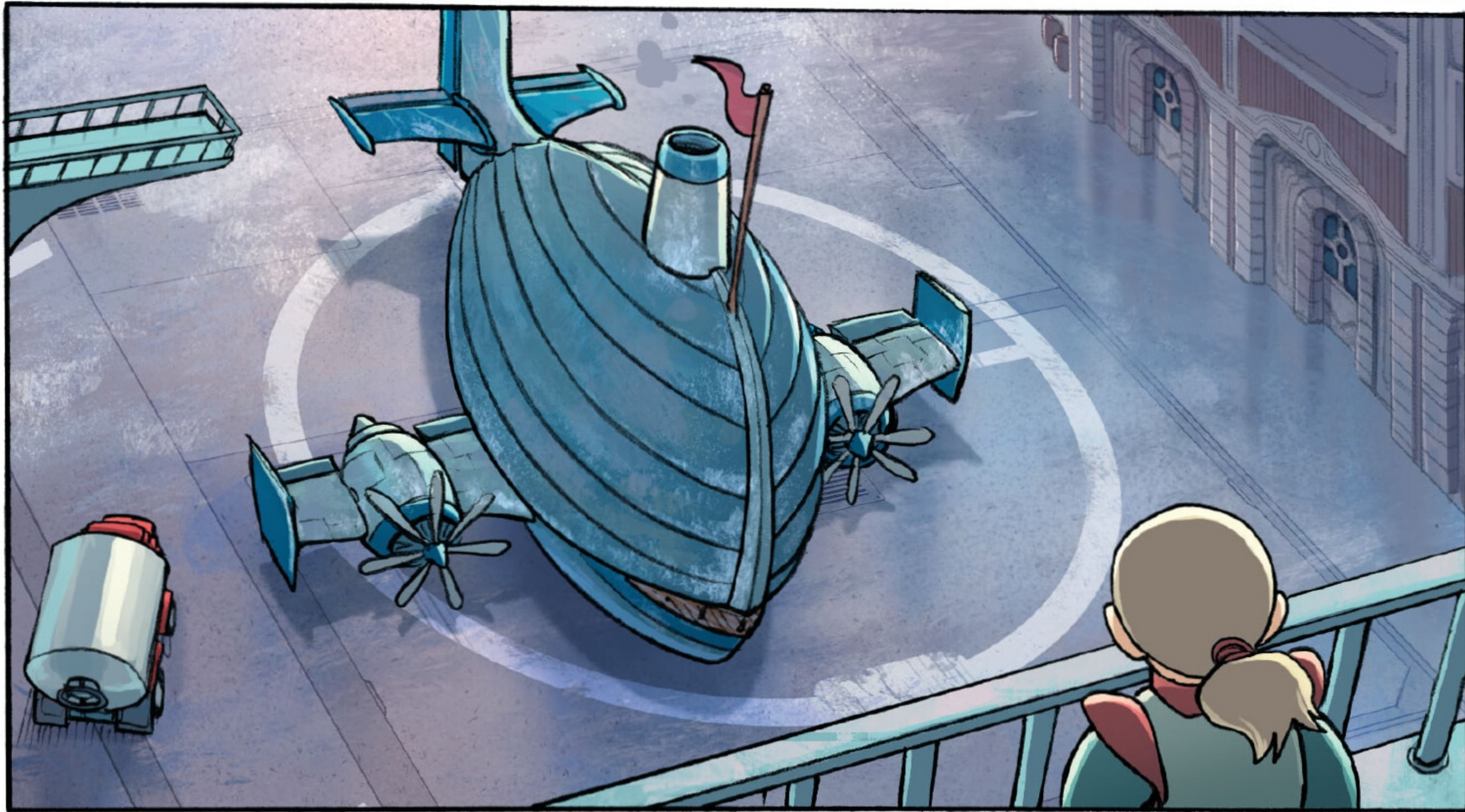
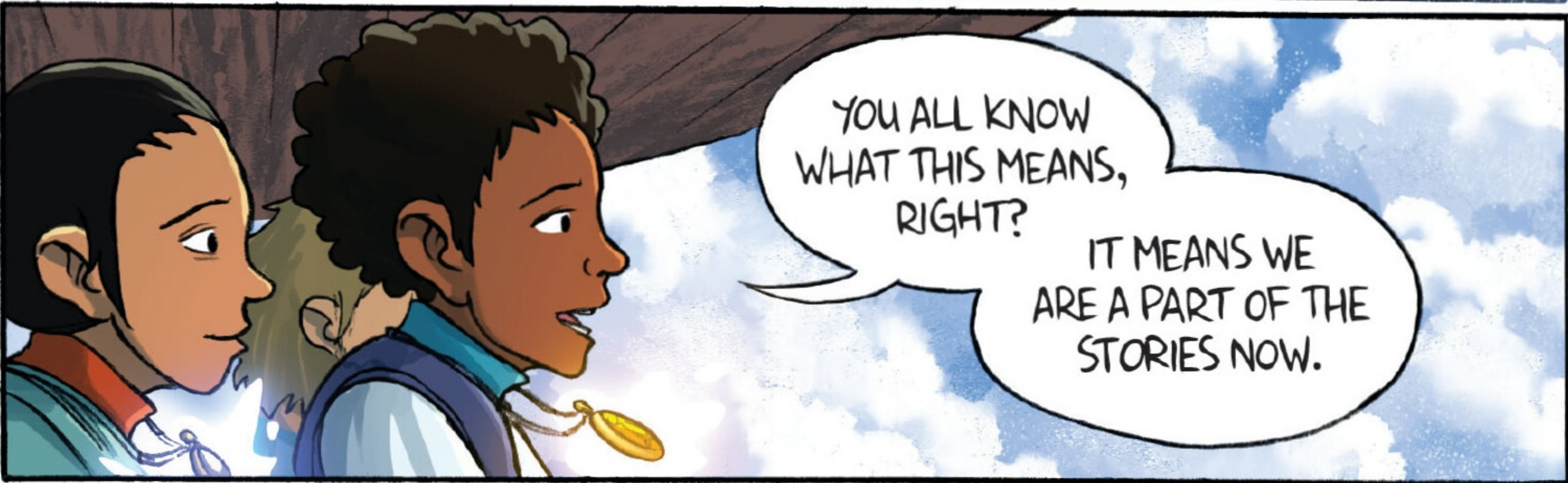


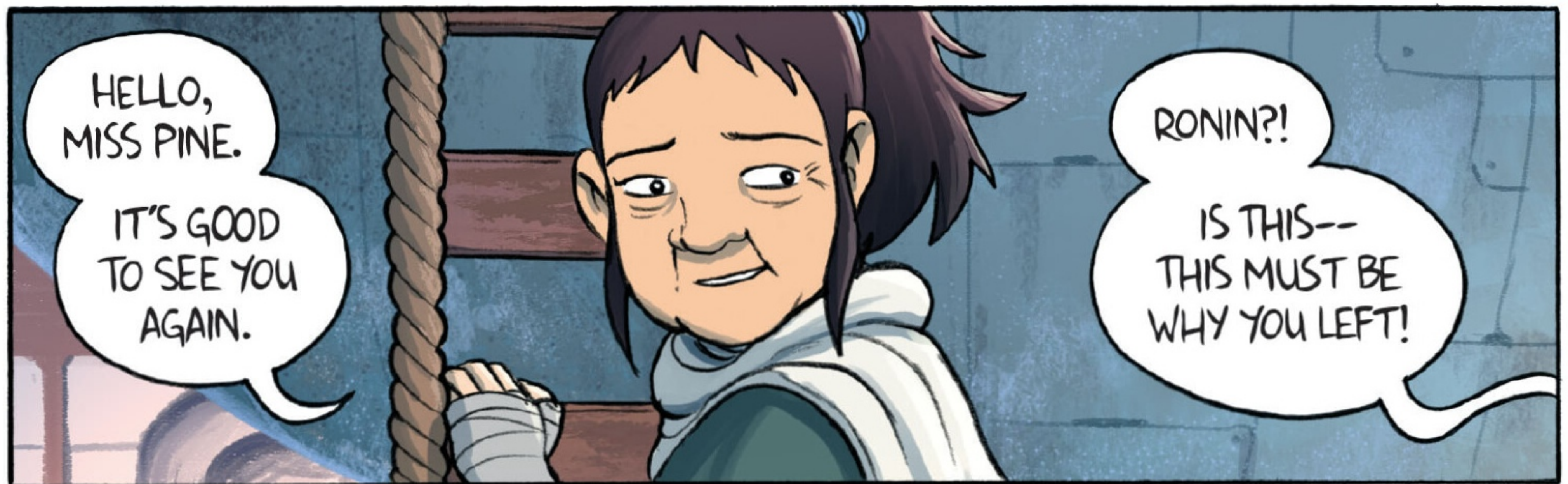






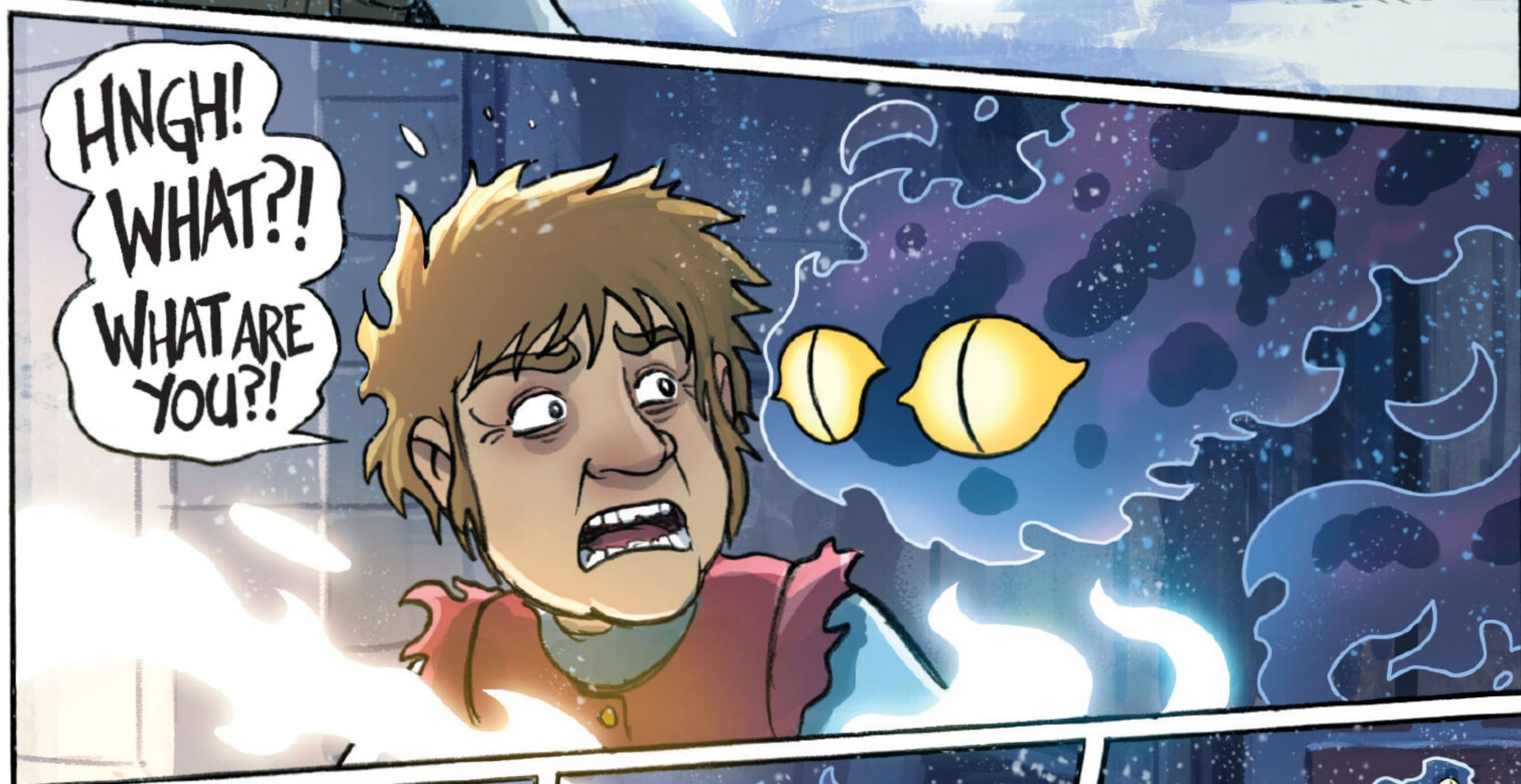
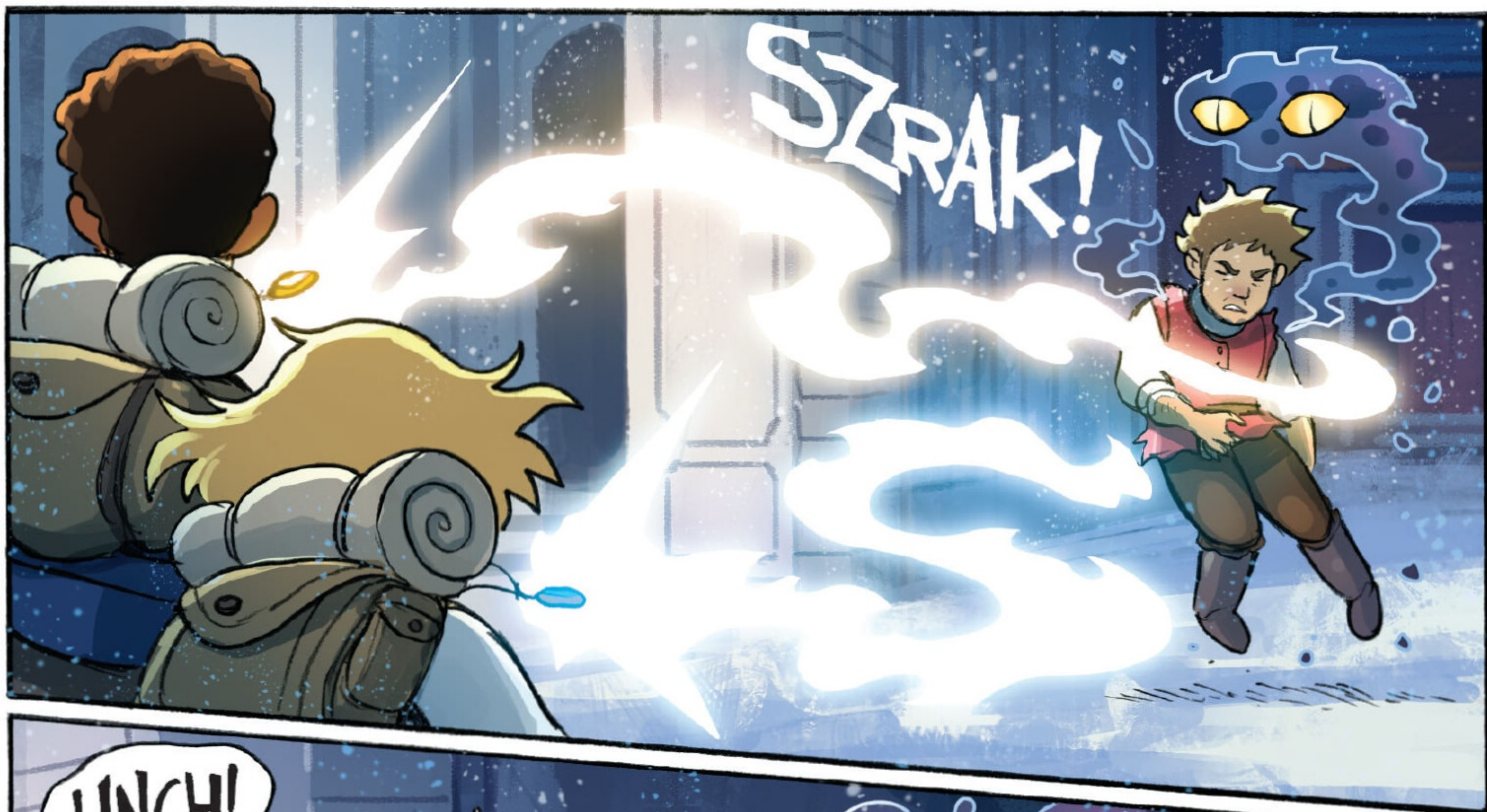
JUST LET ME
ENJOY THIS FINAL,
FLEETING MOMENT
OF ADVENTURE.













LISTEN, THE SHADOWS ARE GOING TO COME BACK FOR YOU, BUT YOU CAN KEEP THEM OUT OF YOUR HEAD IF YOU GET YOUR MIND RIGHT.



THEY FEED ON FEAR, FEELINGS OF GUILT, AND DOUBT.

THINGS THAT EAT YOU UP INSIDE.

DO YOU HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY UNFINISHED BUSINESS?

YOU HOLD SECRETS THAT MAKE YOU VULNERABLE TO THE SHADOWS.



DO YOU HARBOR SECRETS YOU NO LONGER WISH TO KEEP?

ARE THERE PEOPLE THAT YOU HAVE TREATED POORLY?

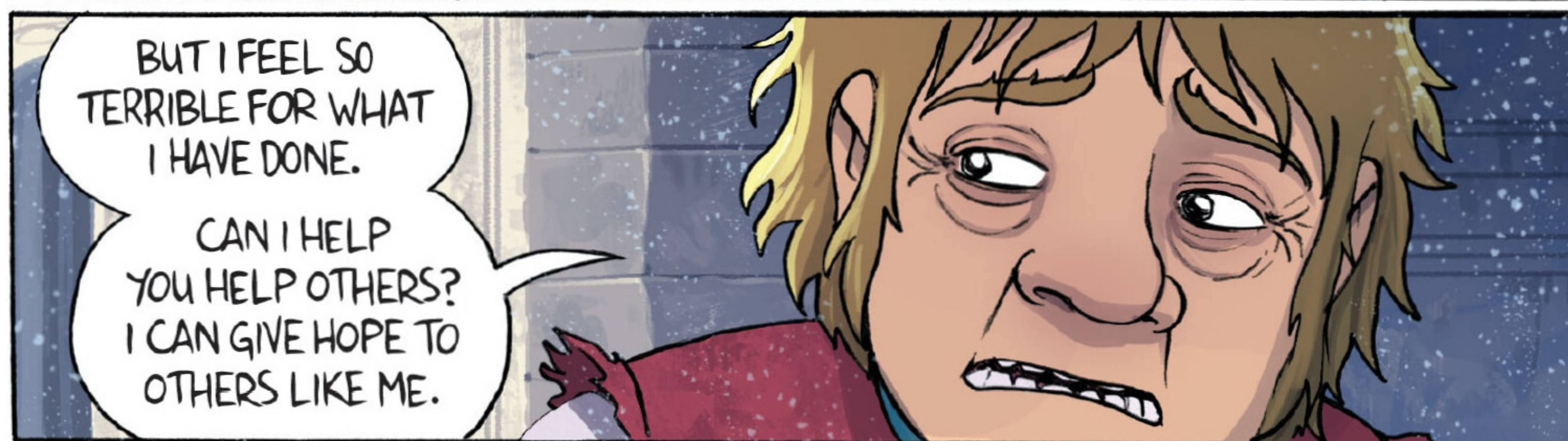
I--

I--



I HAVE A WIFE. A SON. A DAUGHTER. I ABANDONED THEM TO COME HERE AND PURSUE MY DREAMS.

WHEN I BEGAN TO REALIZE THE MISTAKES I HAD MADE, THAT'S WHEN THE SHADOWS GOT ME.







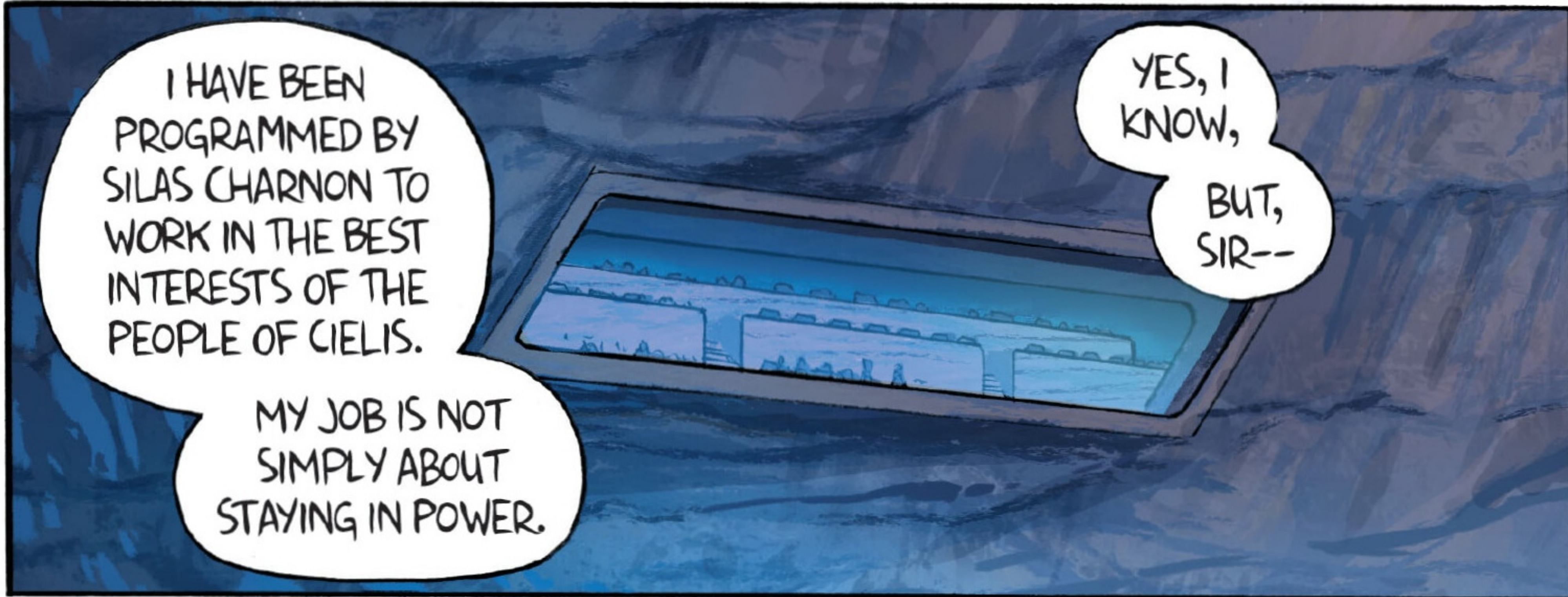
GENERAL PUK,
WE HAVE EVIDENCE TO
SUGGEST THERE IS A PLOT
TO TAKE CONTROL OF
CIELIS AWAY FROM US.

THE RINGLEADER IS
OUR CHIEF ARCHITECT,
MAY PINE.



SERGEANT BIRCH,
ARE YOU SPYING ON
MISS PINE?

SIR,
WE ARE
ABOUT TO LOSE
POWER.



I HAVE BEEN
PROGRAMMED BY
SILAS CHARNON TO
WORK IN THE BEST
INTERESTS OF THE
PEOPLE OF CIELIS.

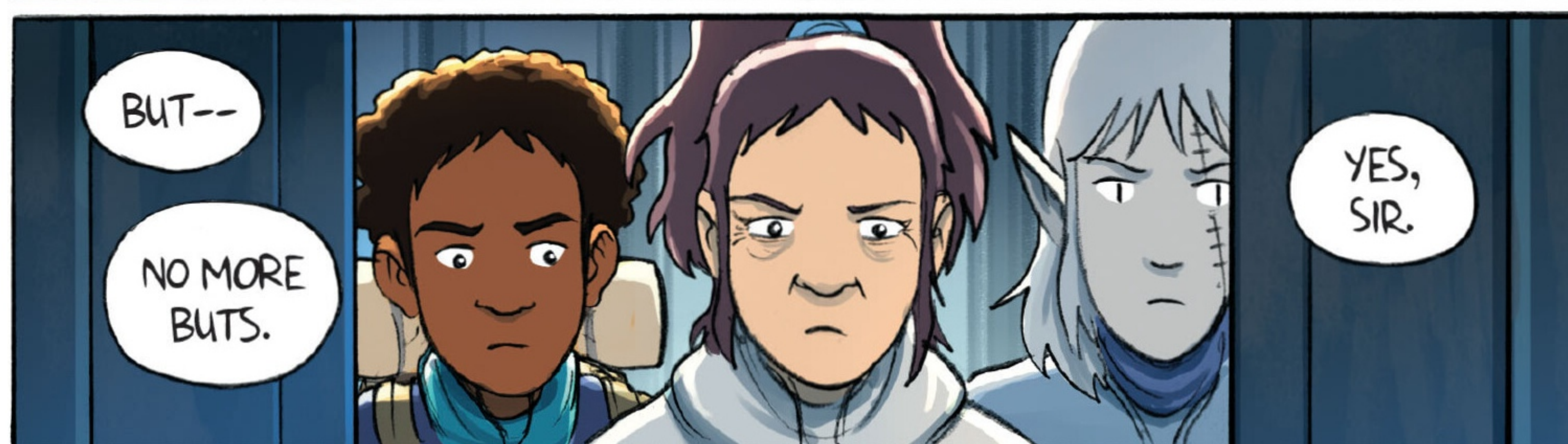
MY JOB IS NOT
SIMPLY ABOUT
STAYING IN POWER.

YES, I
KNOW,
BUT,
SIR--



PLEASE
TELL EVERYONE
TO PREPARE TO GIVE
CONTROL BACK TO THE
GUARDIAN COUNCIL.

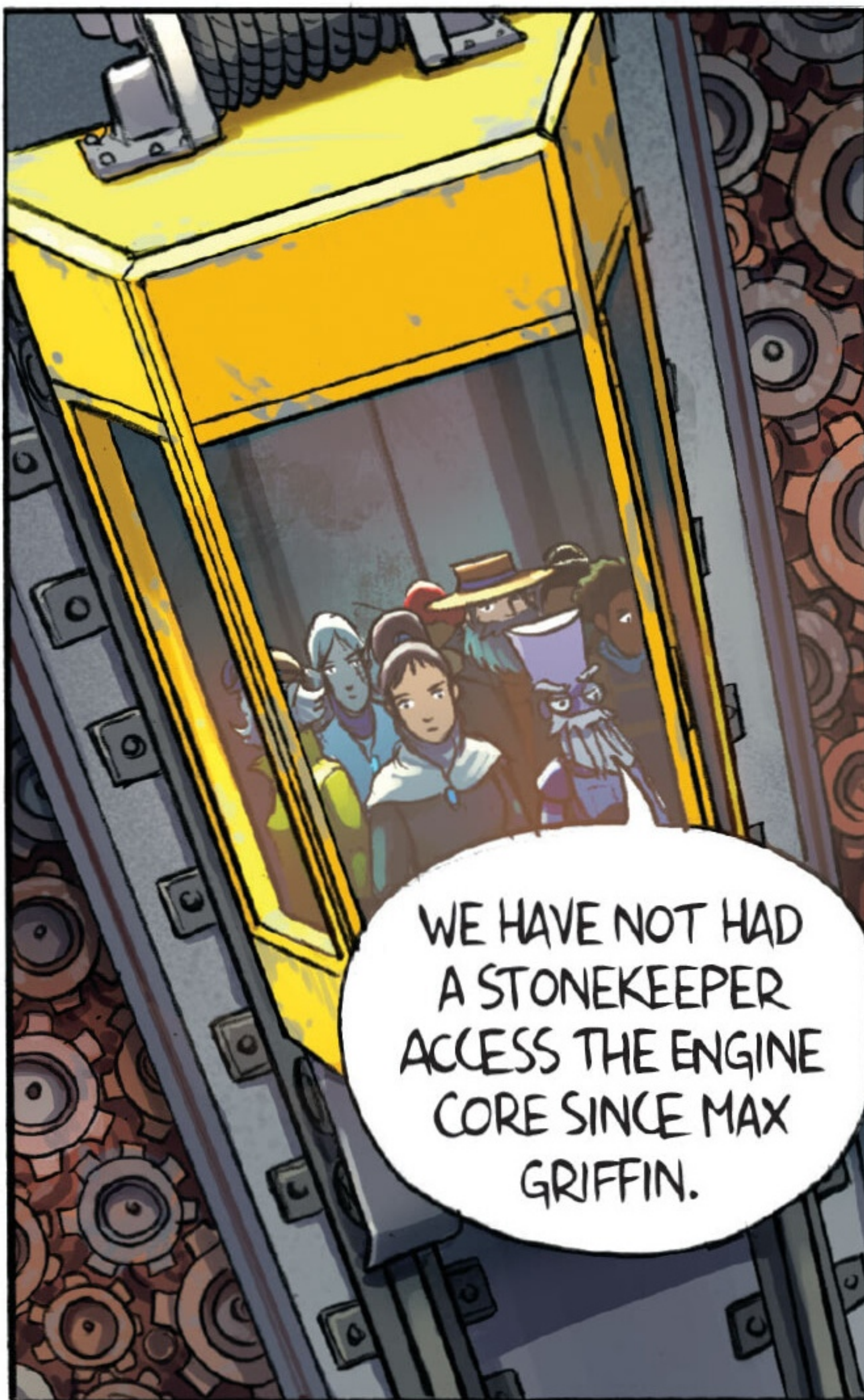
SIR, NO!



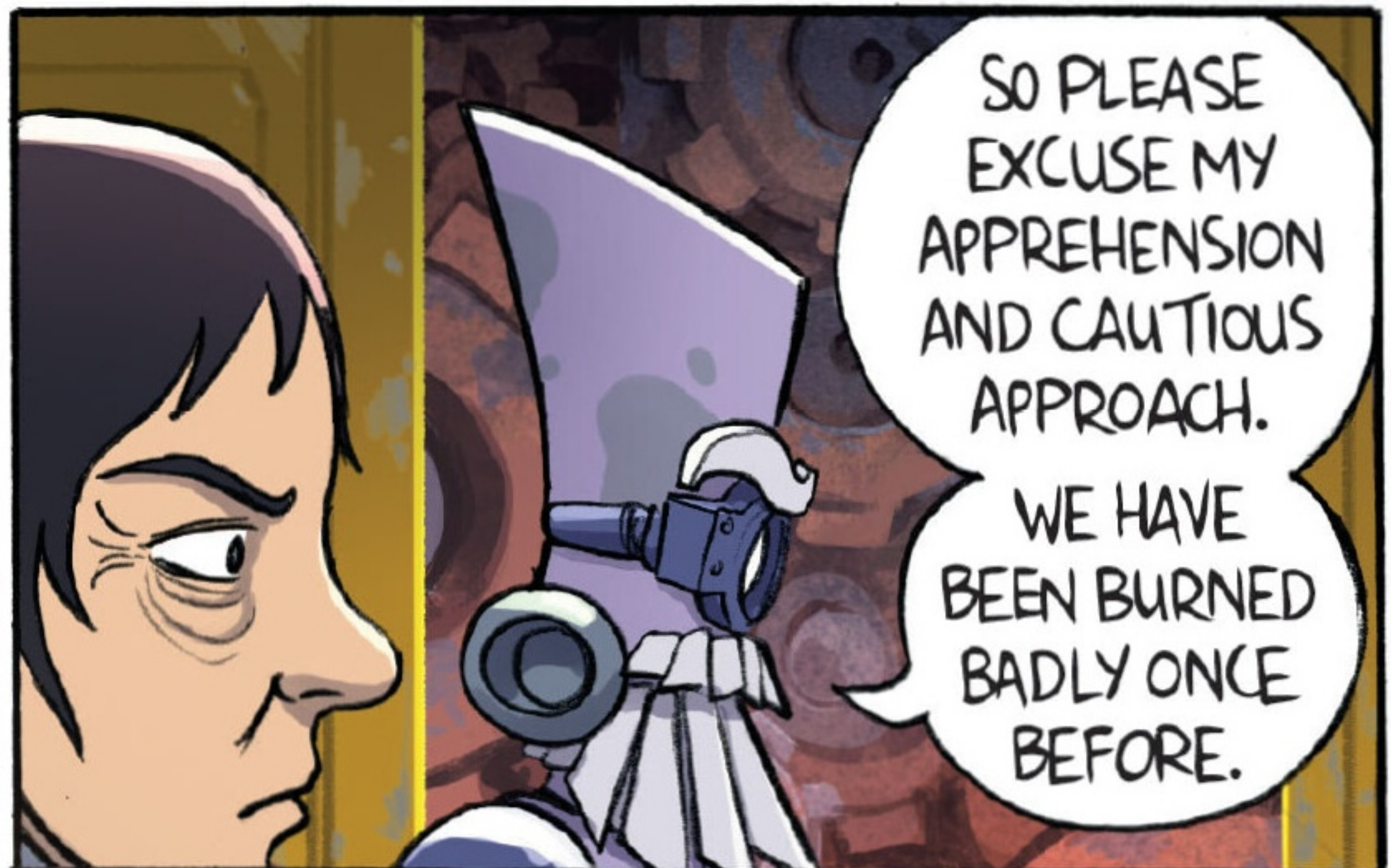


WE NEED ACCESS
TO THE ENGINE
CORE BENEATH
CIELIS.

PLEASE
TAKE US
THERE.



WE HAVE NOT HAD
A STONEKEEPER
ACCESS THE ENGINE
CORE SINCE MAX
GRIFFIN.



SO PLEASE
EXCUSE MY
APPREHENSION
AND CAUTIOUS
APPROACH.

WE HAVE
BEEN BURNED
BADLY ONCE
BEFORE.



MAX GOT IN HERE
BY TELLING YOU
EVERYTHING YOU
WANTED TO HEAR.

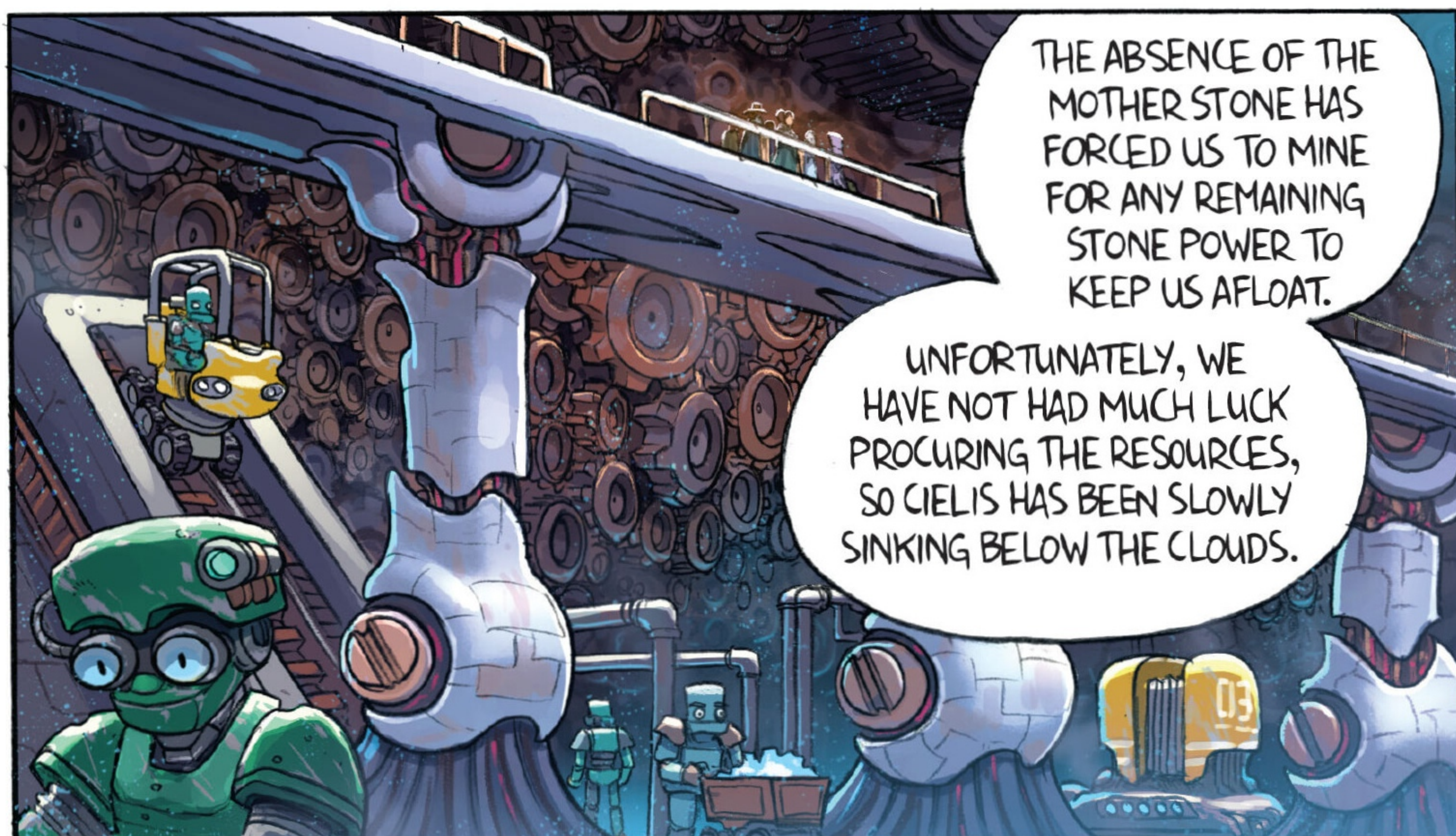
I'M GOING TO TELL
YOU THE TRUTH EVEN
IF YOU DON'T WANT
TO HEAR IT.

I AM NOT
MAX GRIFFIN.



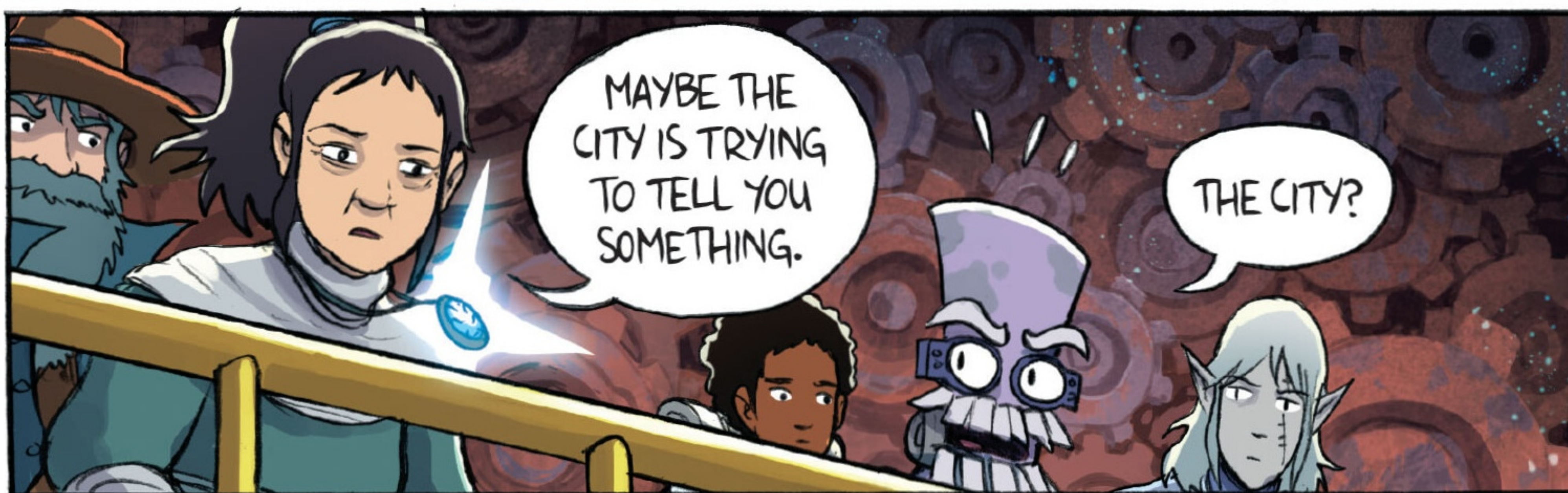
I CAN SEE
WHY THE OLD
COUNCIL AND YOU
DID NOT SEE EYE
TO EYE.

I THINK YOU
WILL FIND THAT
THINGS HAVE CHANGED
AROUND HERE FOR
THE BETTER.



THE ABSENCE OF THE MOTHER STONE HAS FORCED US TO MINE FOR ANY REMAINING STONE POWER TO KEEP US AFLOAT.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE NOT HAD MUCH LUCK PROCURING THE RESOURCES, SO CIELIS HAS BEEN SLOWLY SINKING BELOW THE CLOUDS.



MAYBE THE CITY IS TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.

THE CITY?



IT SEEMS TO WANT TO RETURN TO THE GROUND. WHY FORCE IT TO REMAIN IN THE CLOUDS?



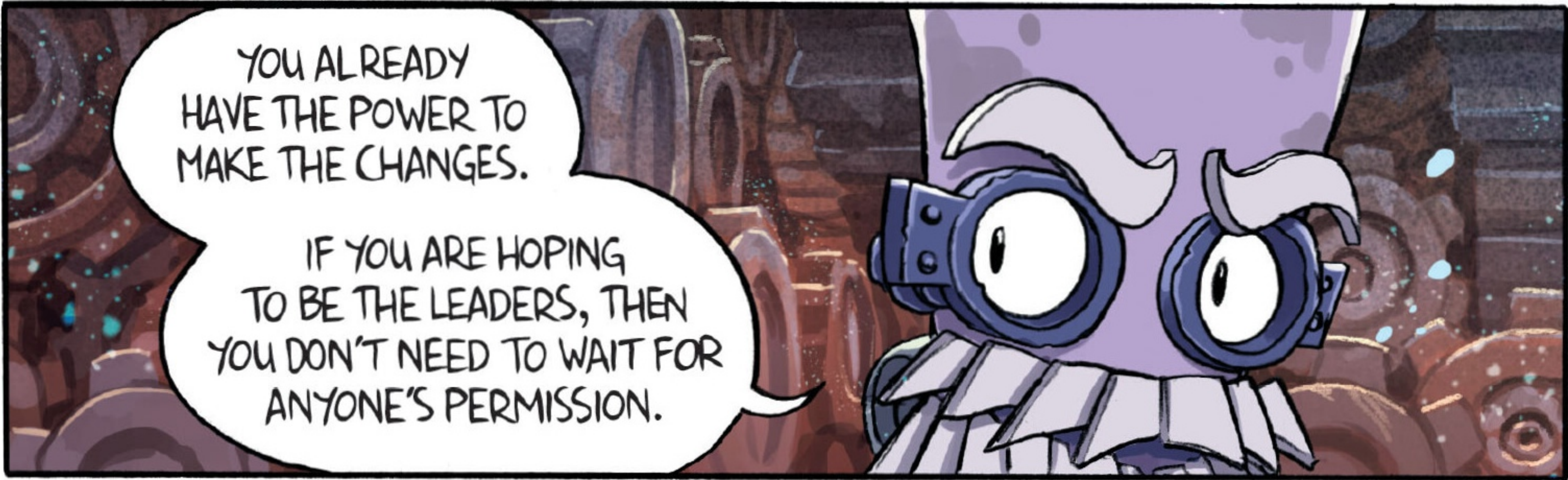
BECAUSE THAT IS HOW IT'S ALWAYS BEEN.

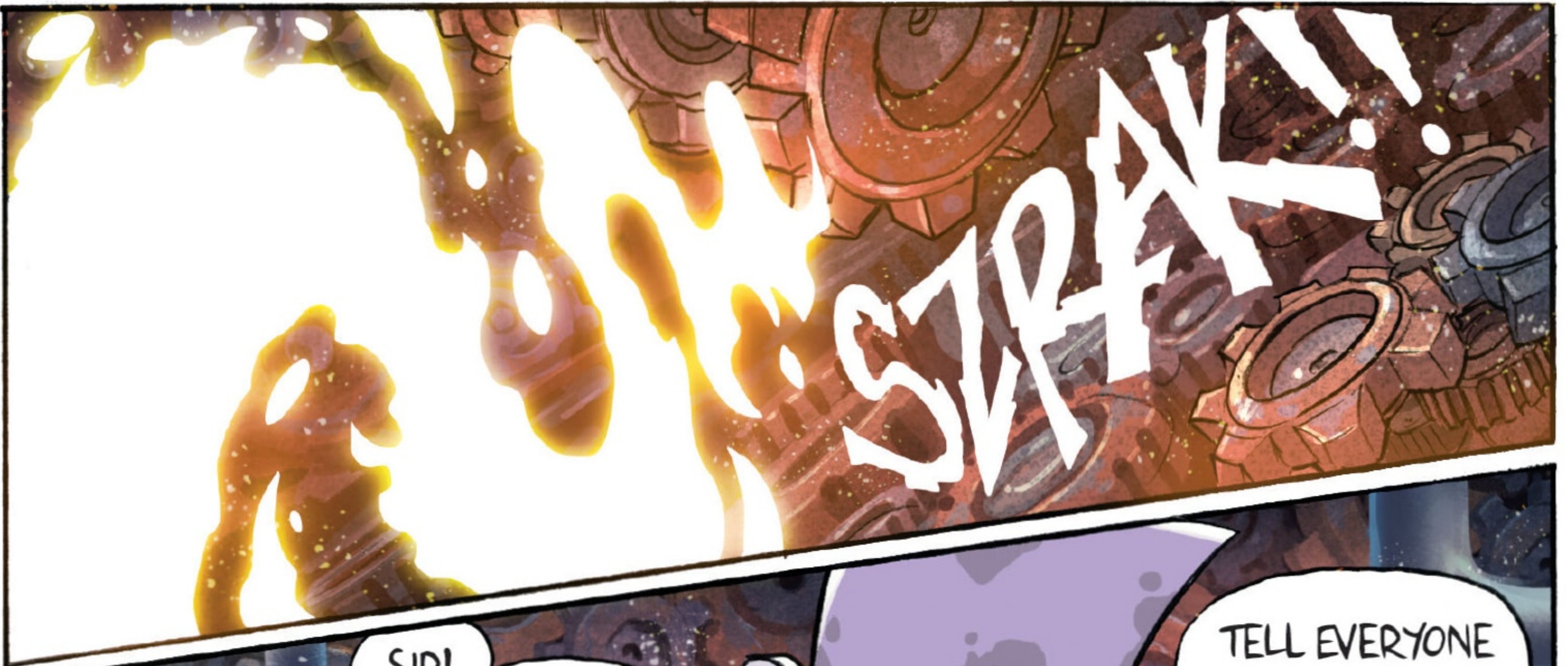
WE CAN'T JUST CHANGE EVERYTHING.



WHY NOT?

IF YOU'RE AFRAID OF CHANGING THINGS, LET US HELP.





SIR!
THE ENGINE
CORE IS STARTING
TO POWER UP ON
ITS OWN!



TELL EVERYONE
TO STAND DOWN!
WE HAVE AN
ALTERNATE
POWER SOURCE
FOR NOW.



ARE YOU
PLUGGED IN?

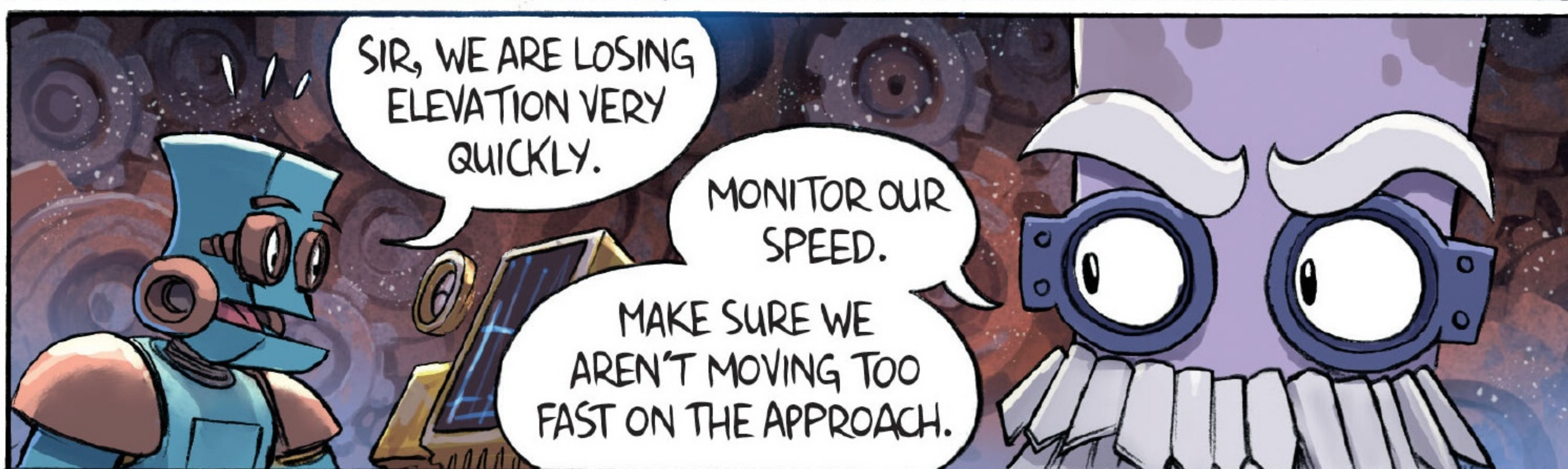
YES!
I CAN FEEL
THE CITY.



BEGINNING OUR
DESCENT TO THE
SURFACE NOW.









THEY ARE
GOOD STUDENTS.
YOU TAUGHT
THEM WELL.



THANK YOU
FOR ACCEPTING
THEM. AND FOR
ACCEPTING
ME.



IT'S NOT AS IF
I HAD MUCH OF
A CHOICE.



AS SOON AS
THEY FEEL THEY
NO LONGER NEED
US, THEY WILL BE
ADVERSARIES
AGAIN.

HOW DID
YOU DEAL
WITH IT?



I WENT AWAY
AND LIVED ON A
REMOTE ISLAND.

UNTIL SILAS'S TOYS
FOUND A WAY TO
BRING ME BACK.

I DON'T
BELIEVE THIS IS
A RESPONSIBILITY
WE CAN JUST WALK
AWAY FROM.

I RECOMMEND
MAKING THE BEST
OF IT.

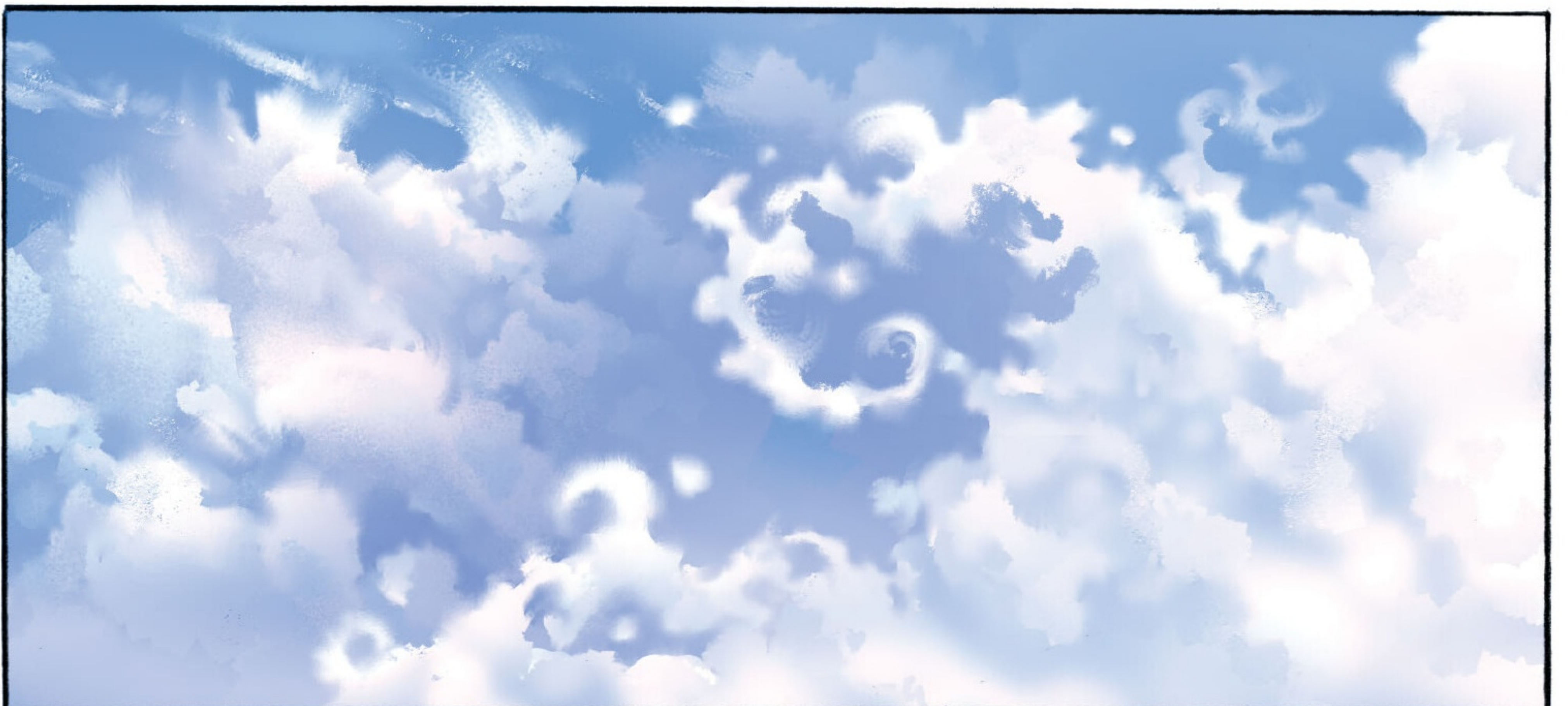


A LOT OF PEOPLE
ARE FOLLOWING
OUR LEAD.

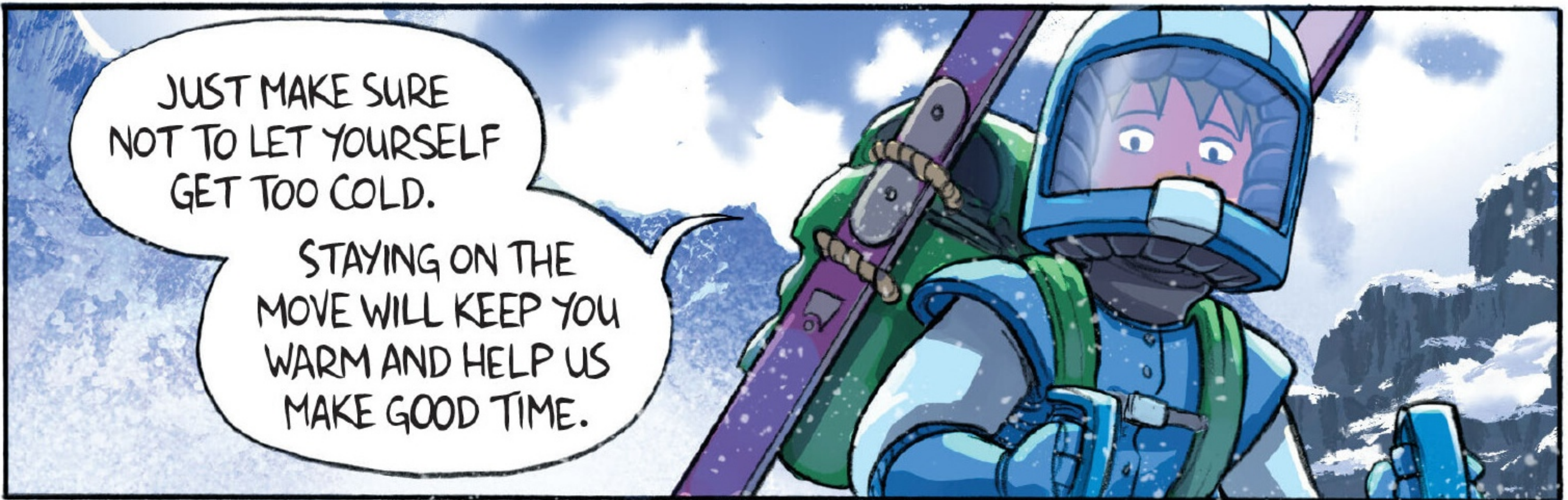
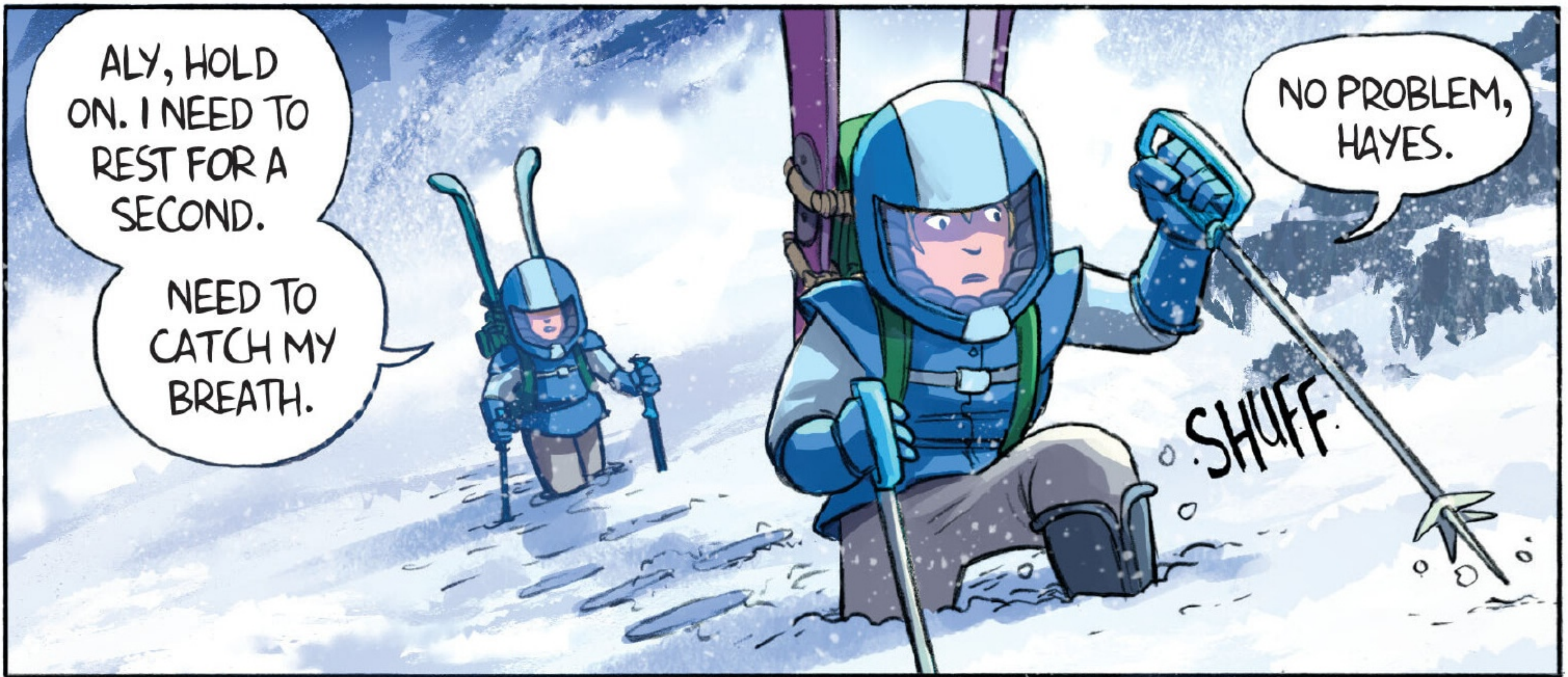


YES.

WE TALKED ABOUT
THIS FOR YEARS AND
NOW IT'S HERE.



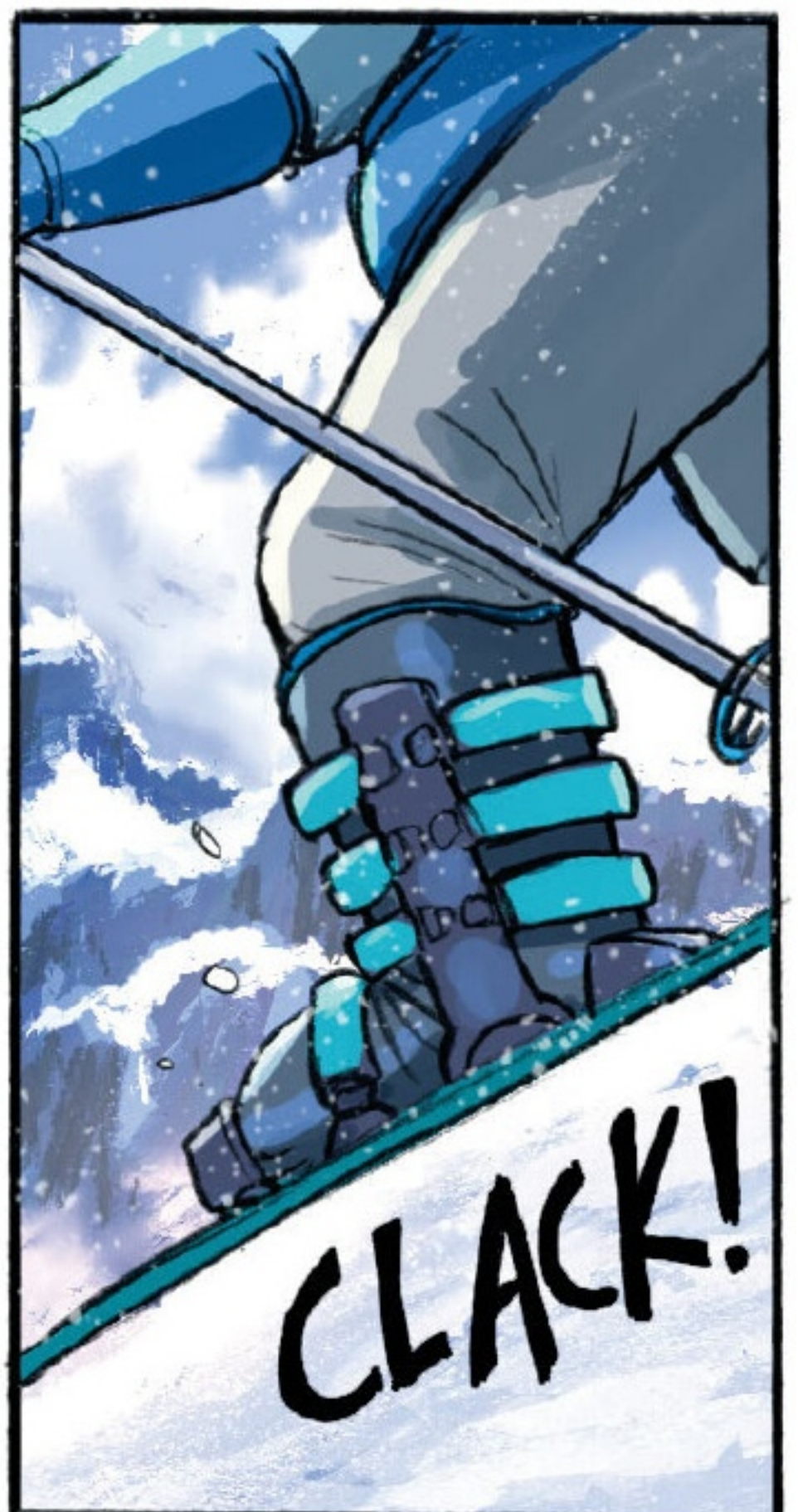
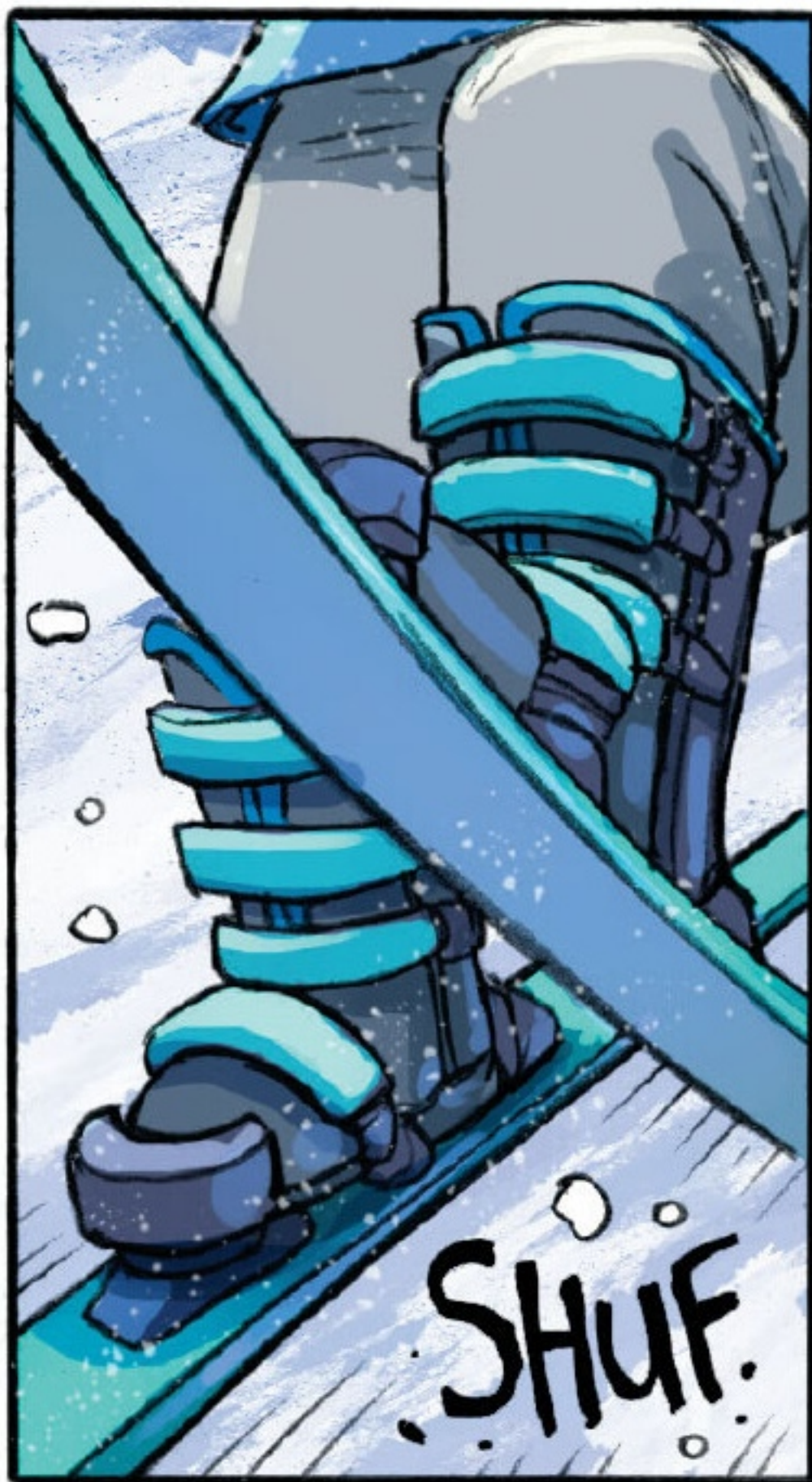


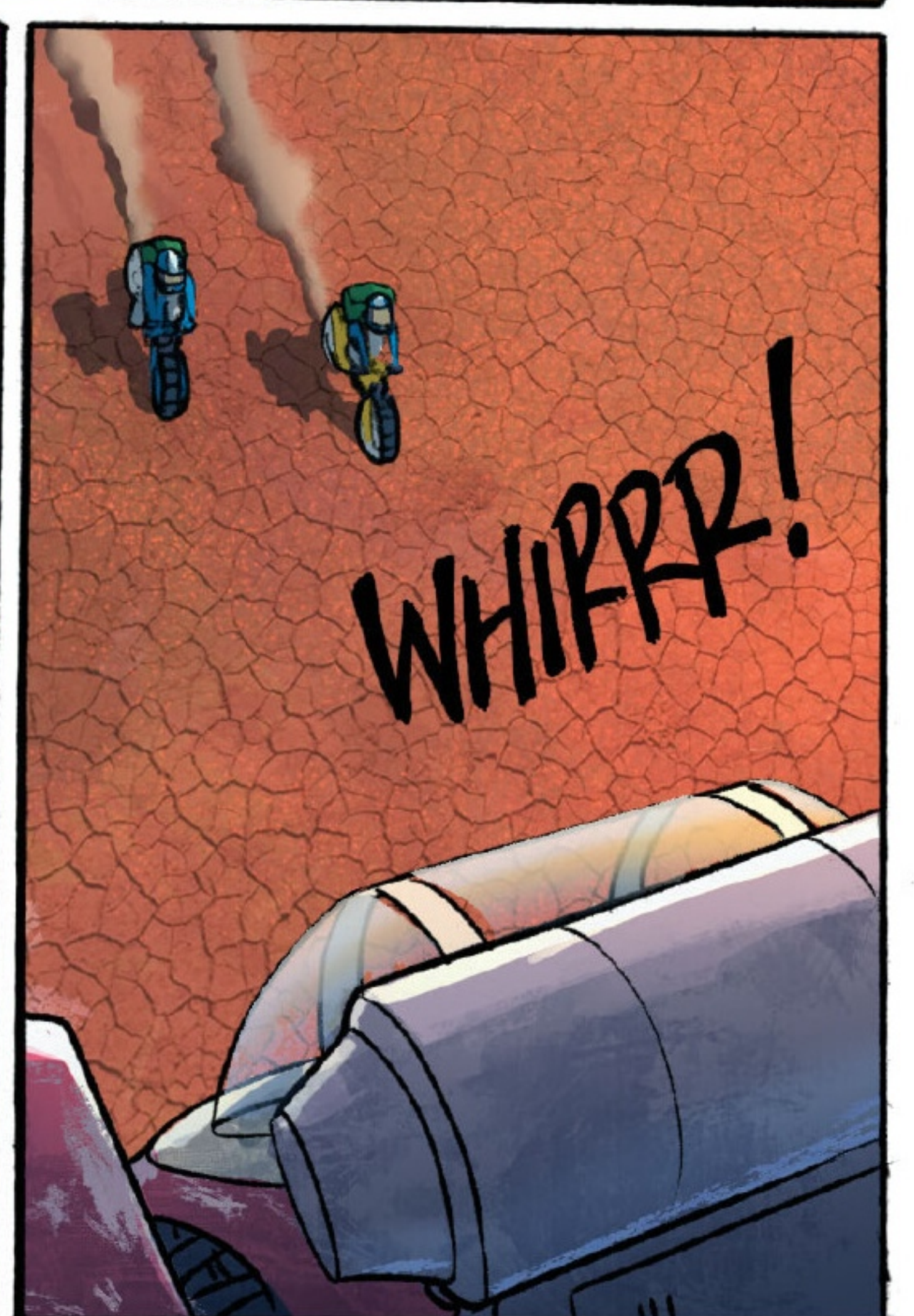
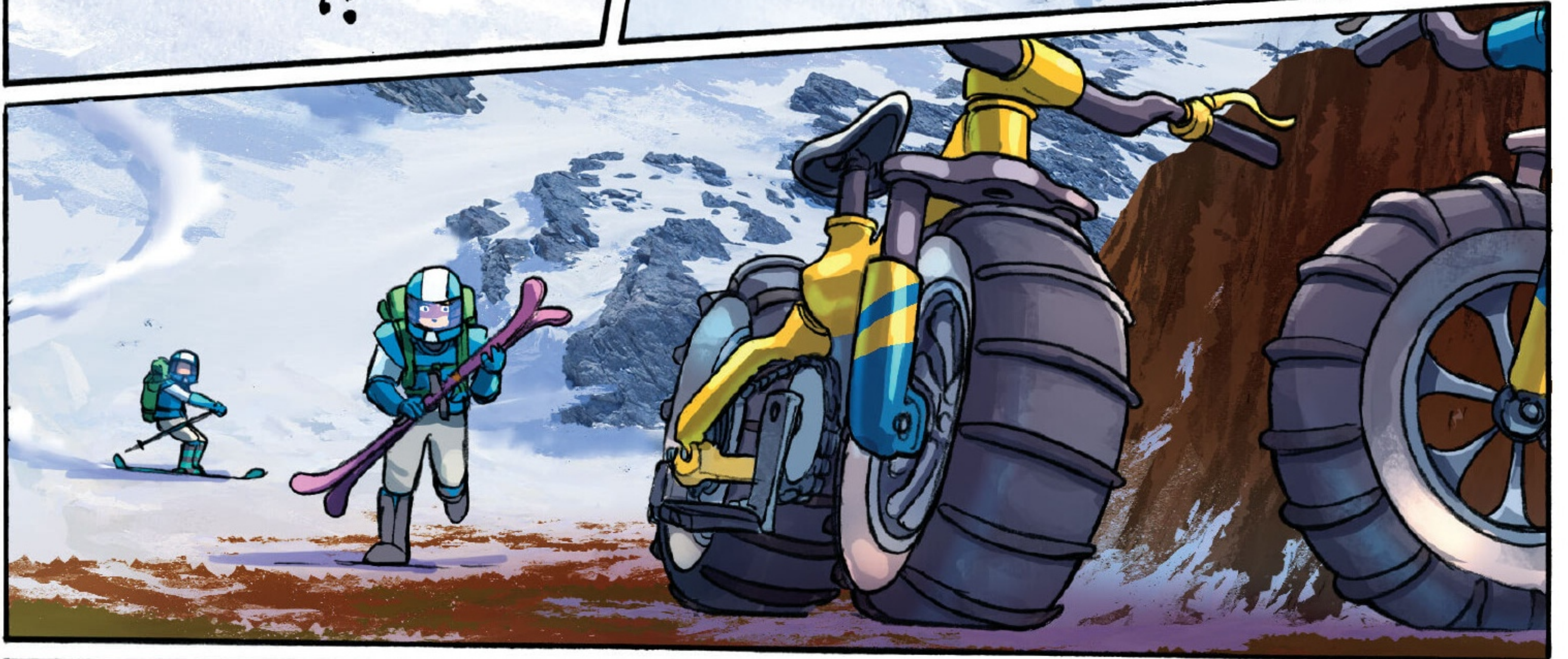
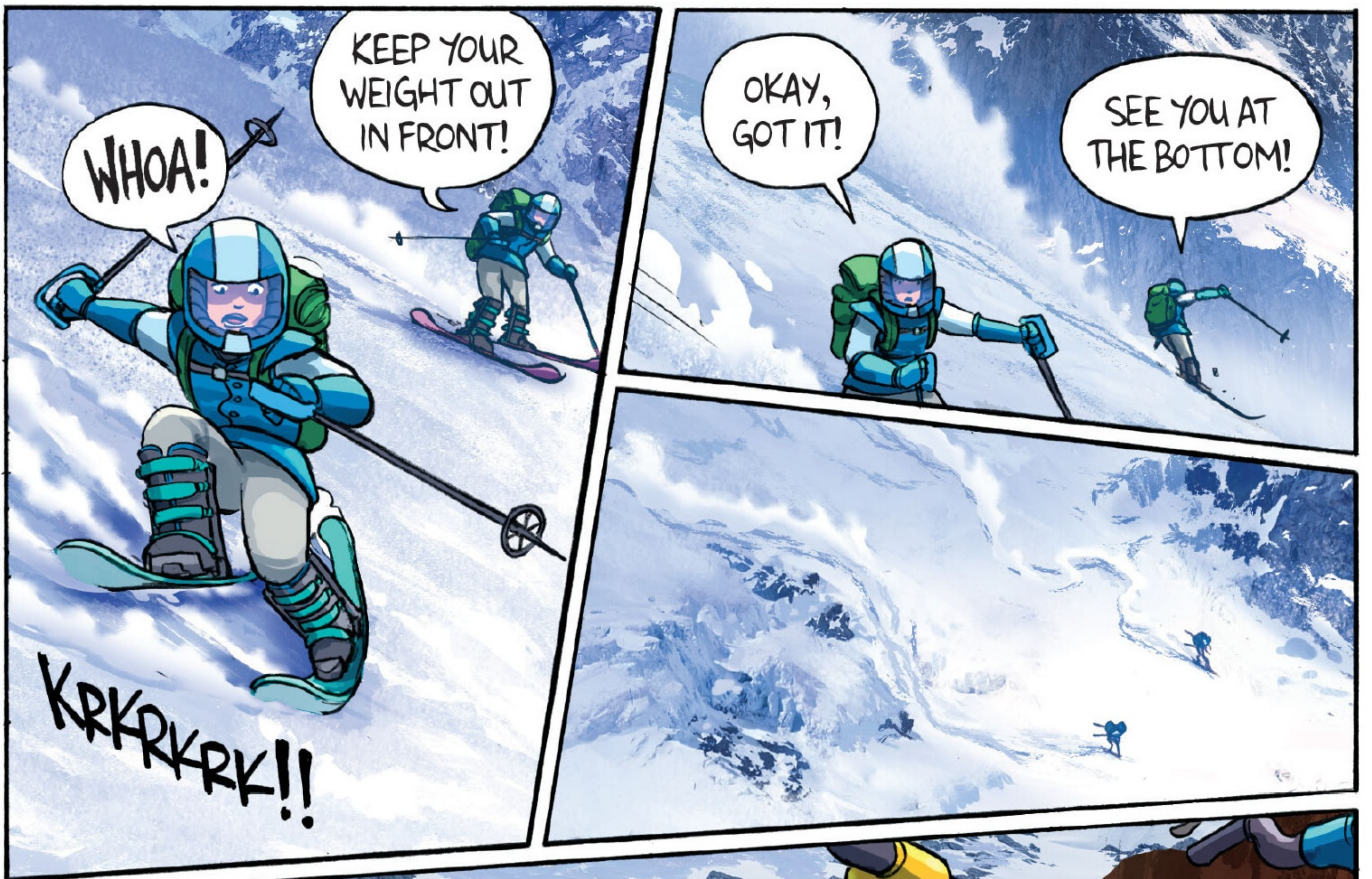


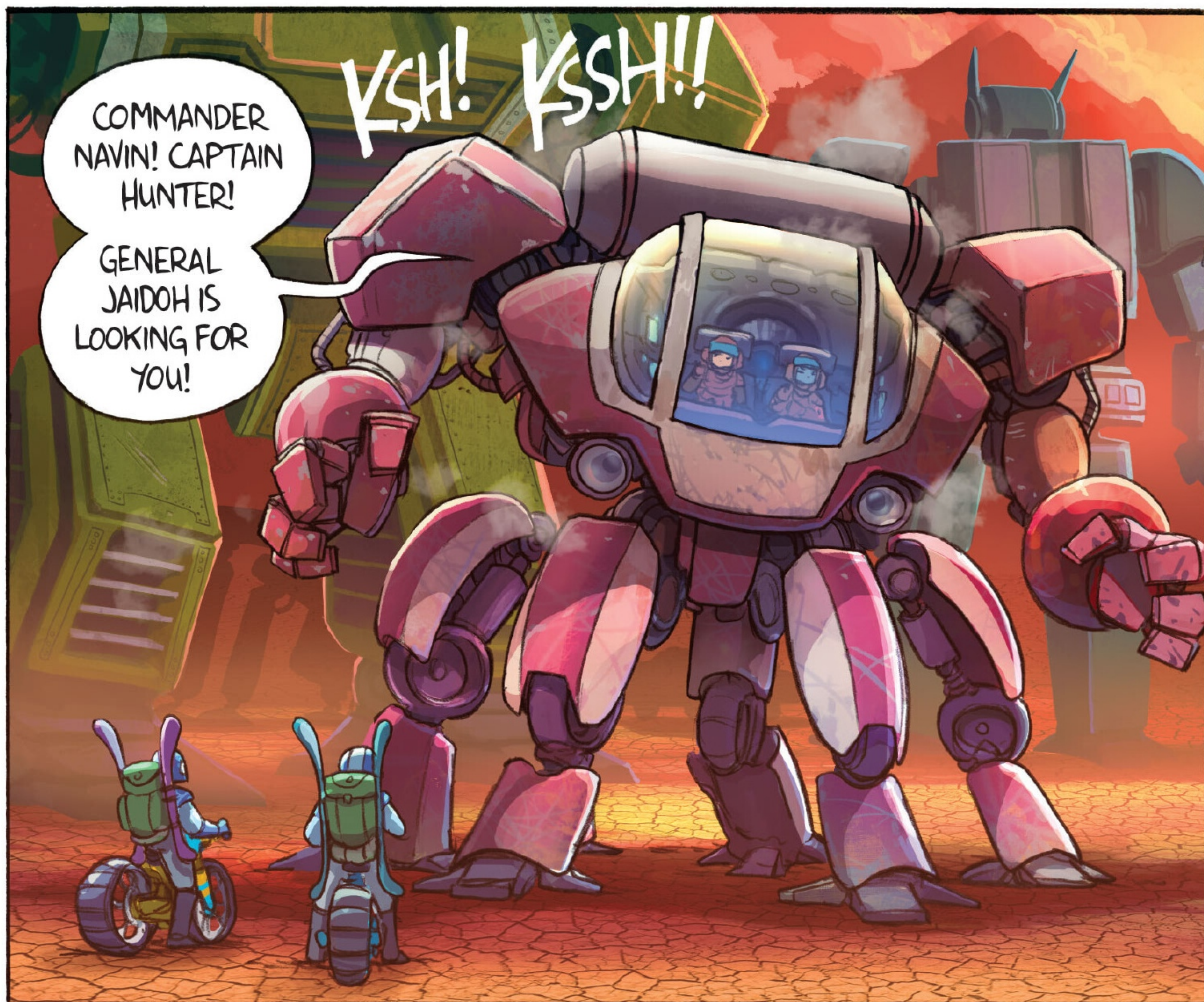


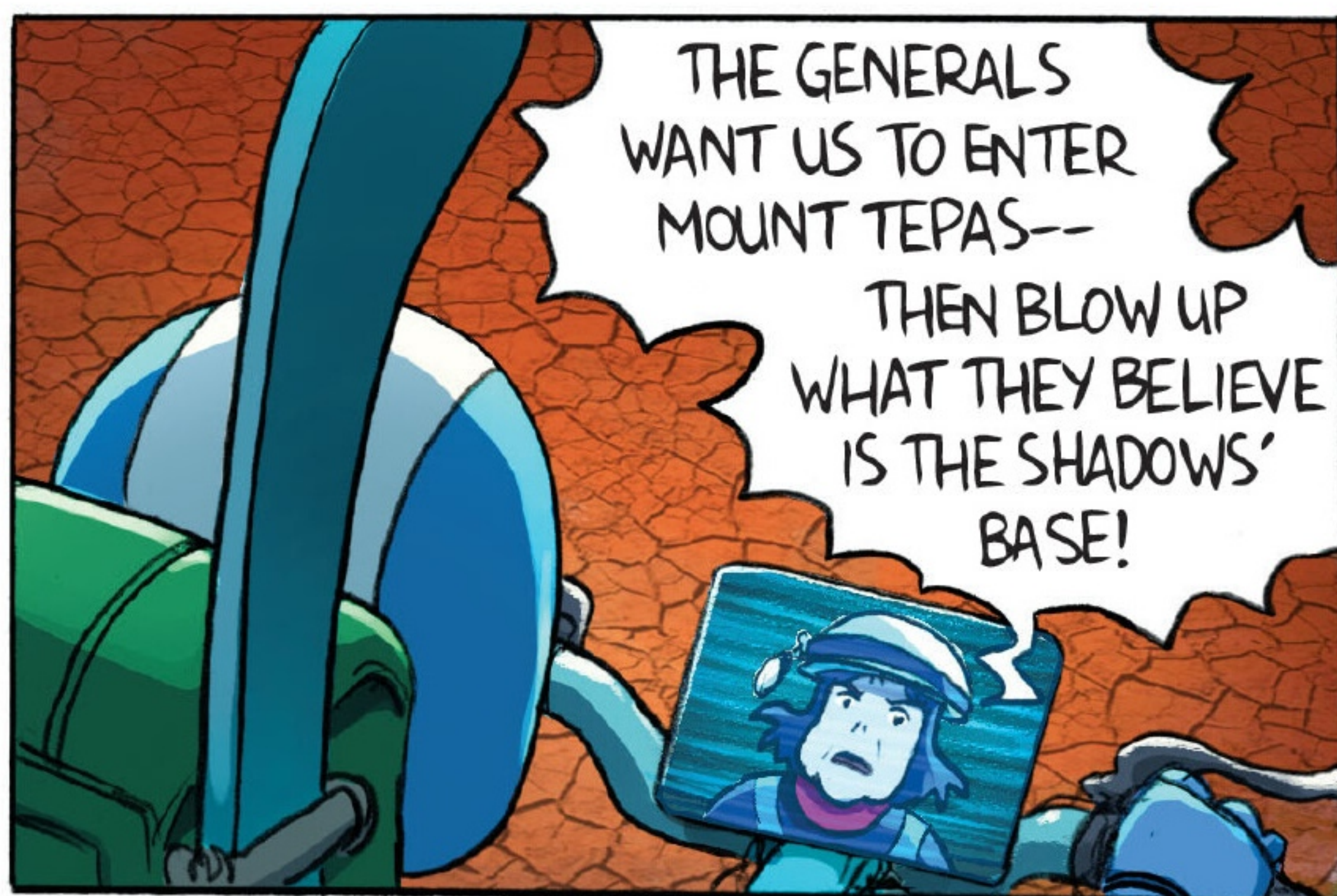


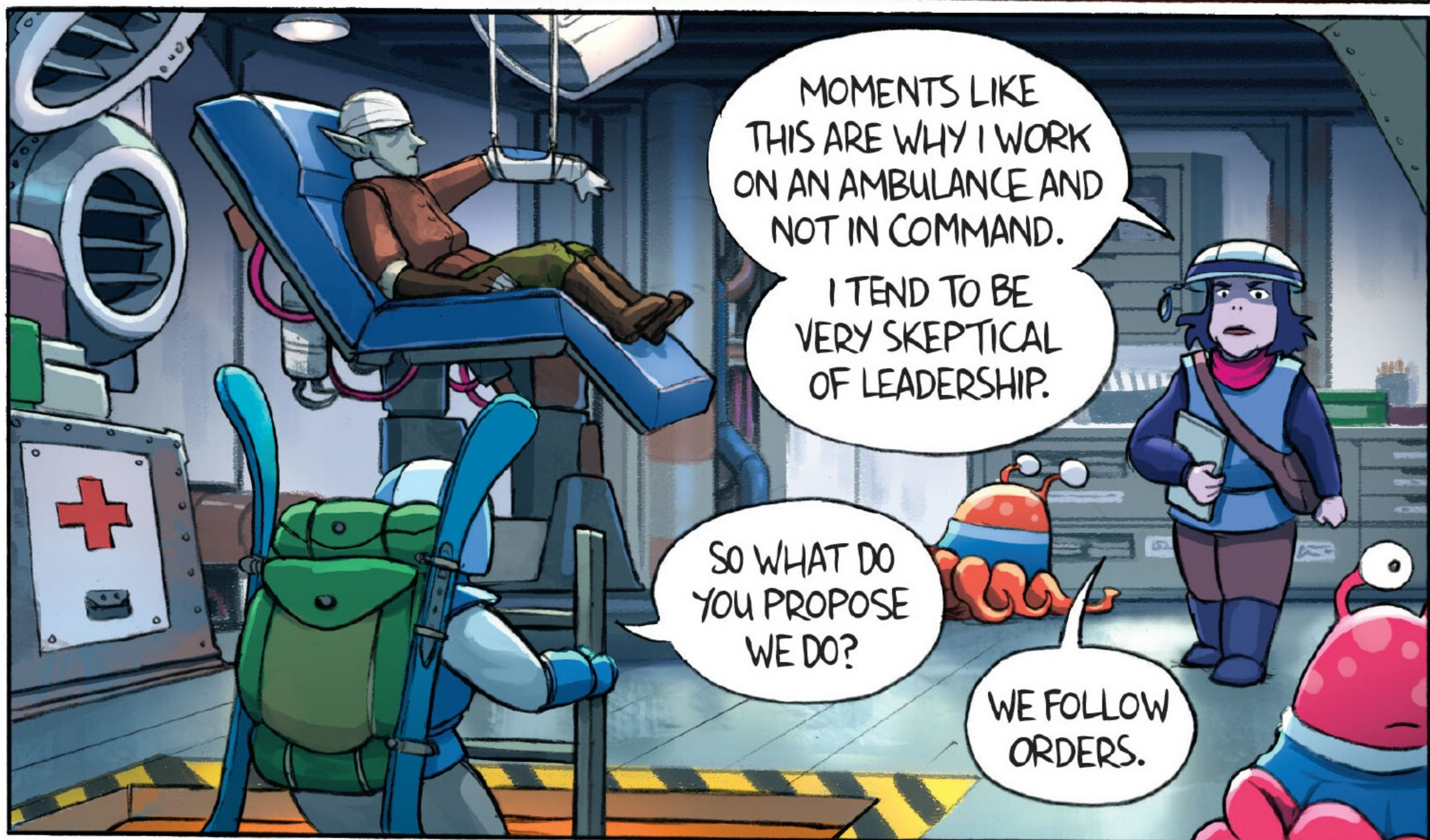
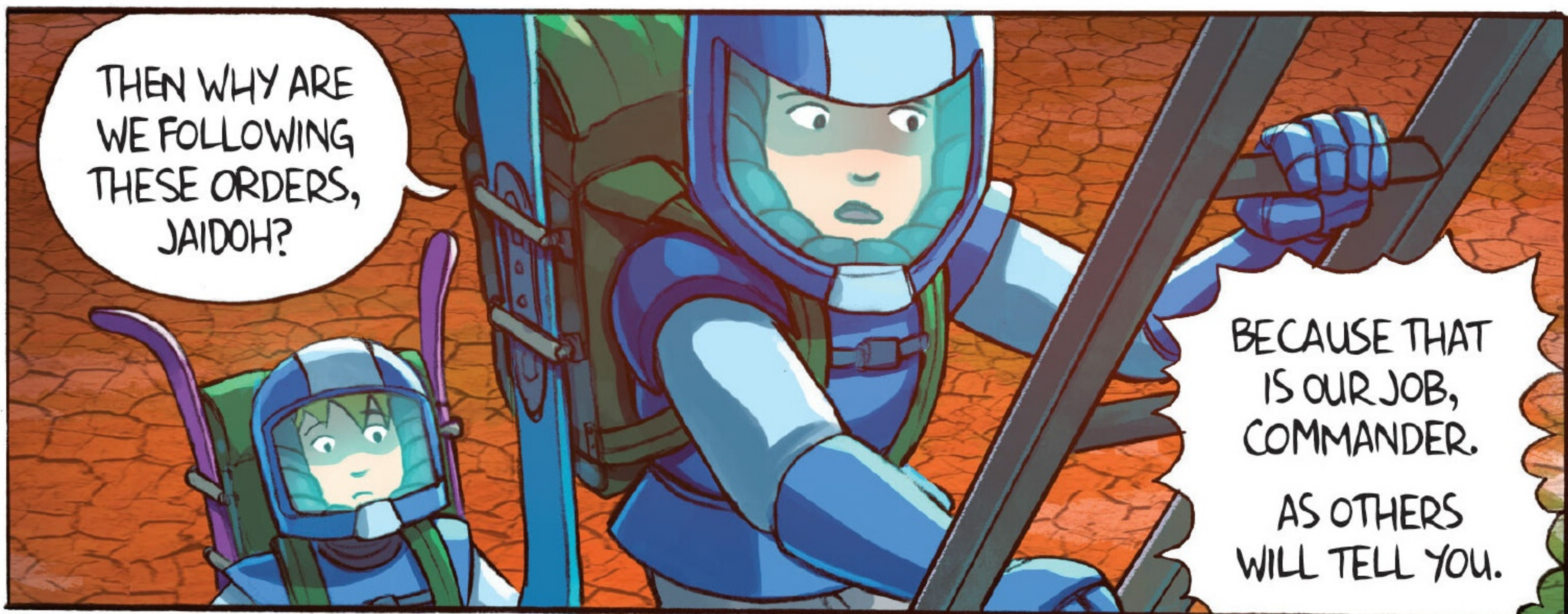


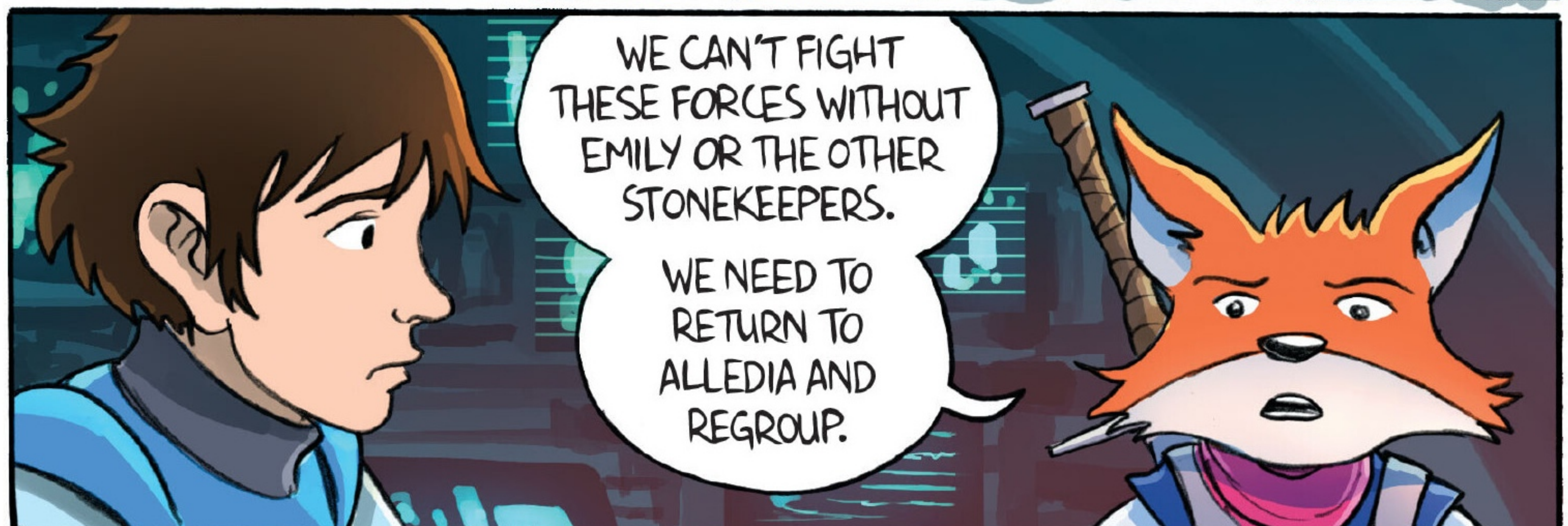
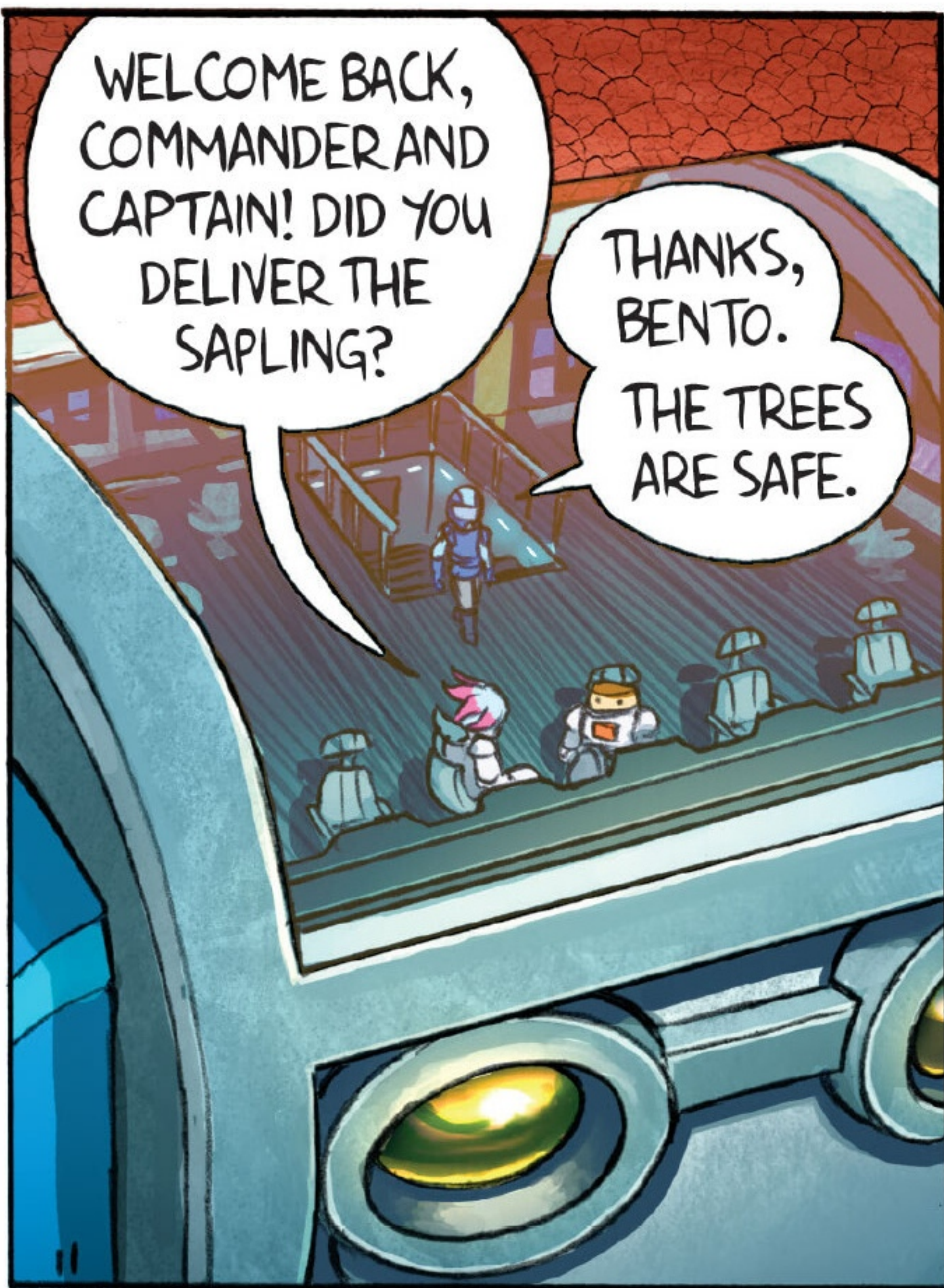


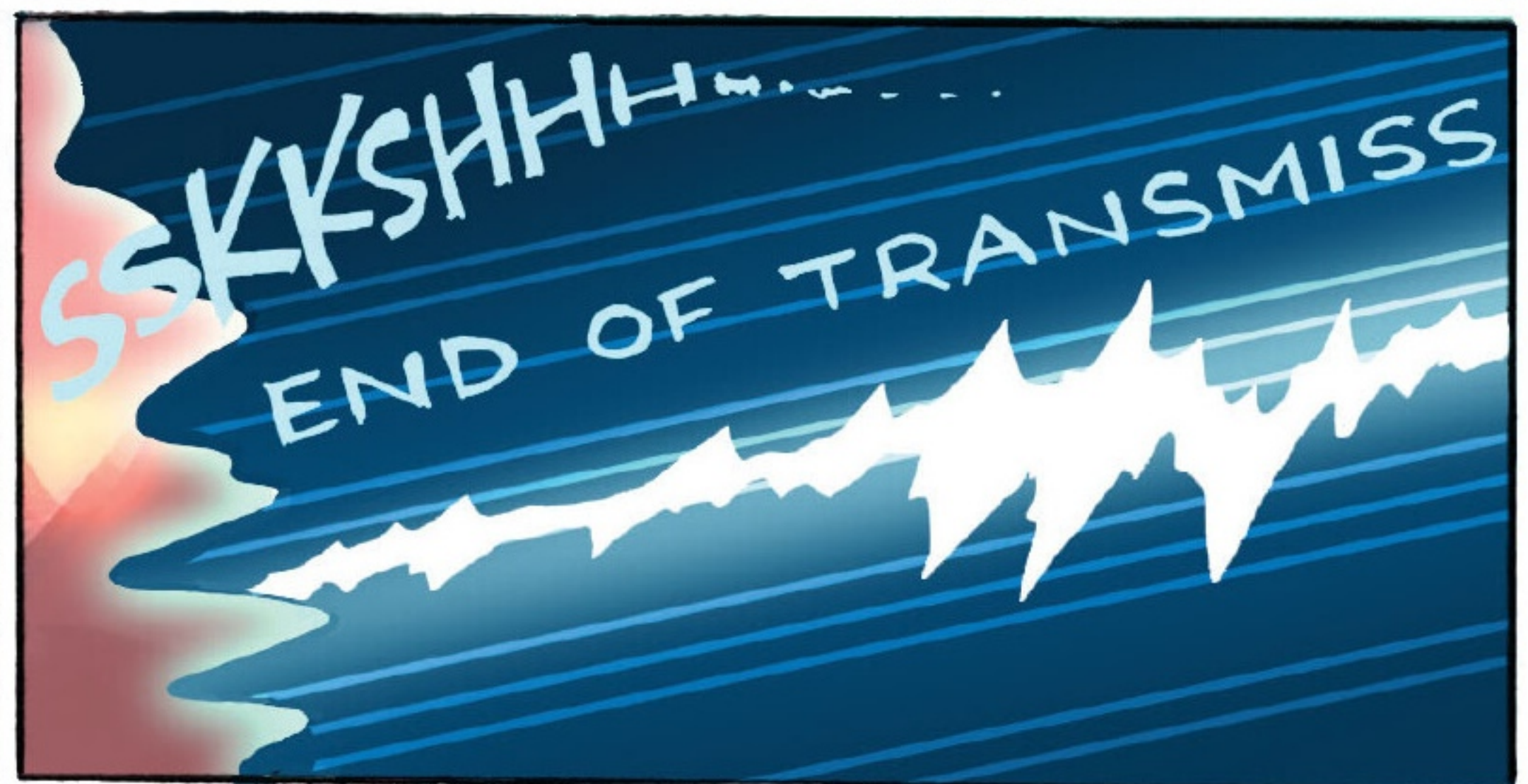










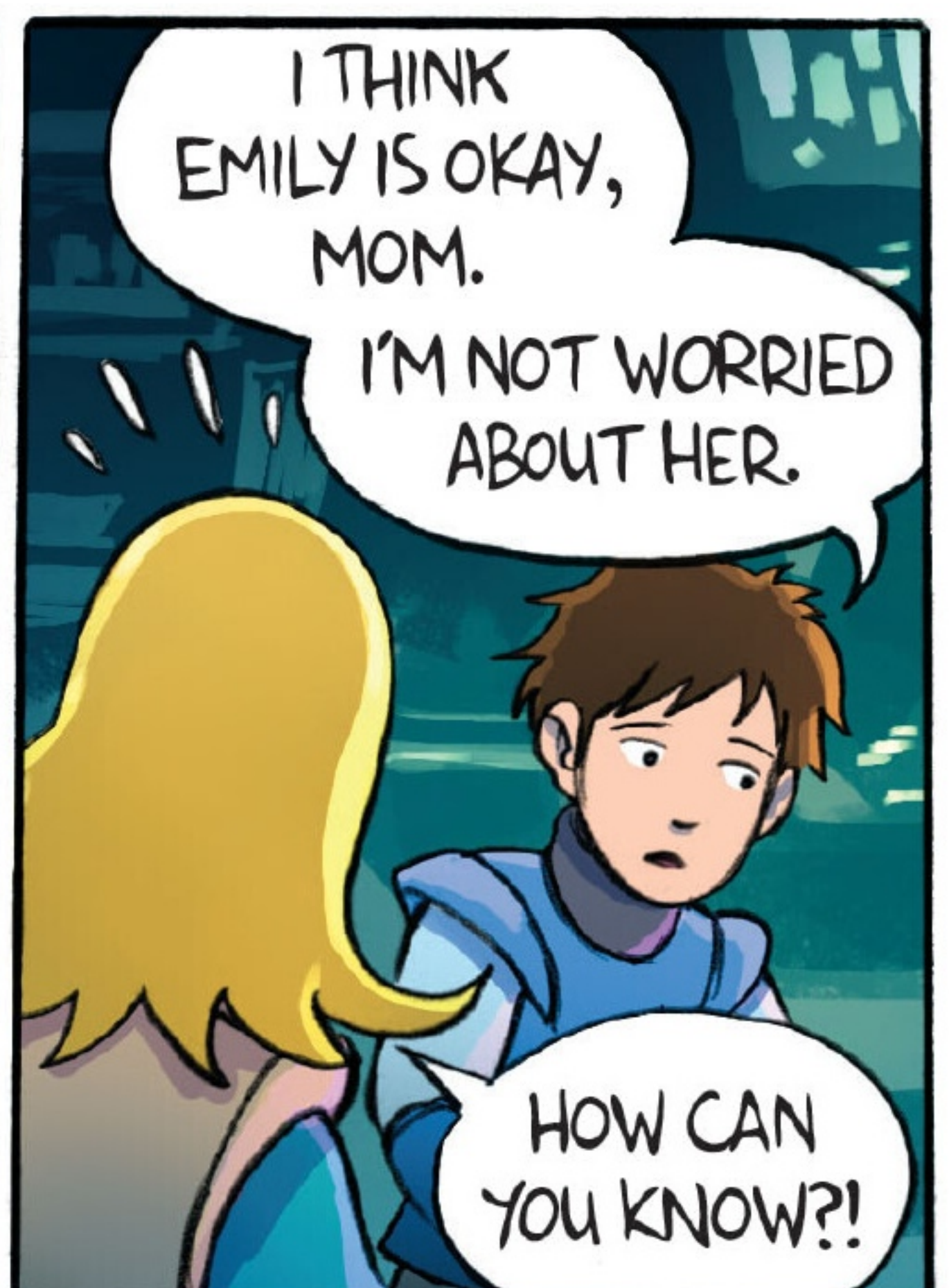




TAKE THE
CONTROLS,
NAVIN.
STAY ON
HIGH ALERT.



IF WHAT HE
SAYS IS TRUE--
WHAT HAPPENED
TO EMILY?! IS SHE
ALIVE?!



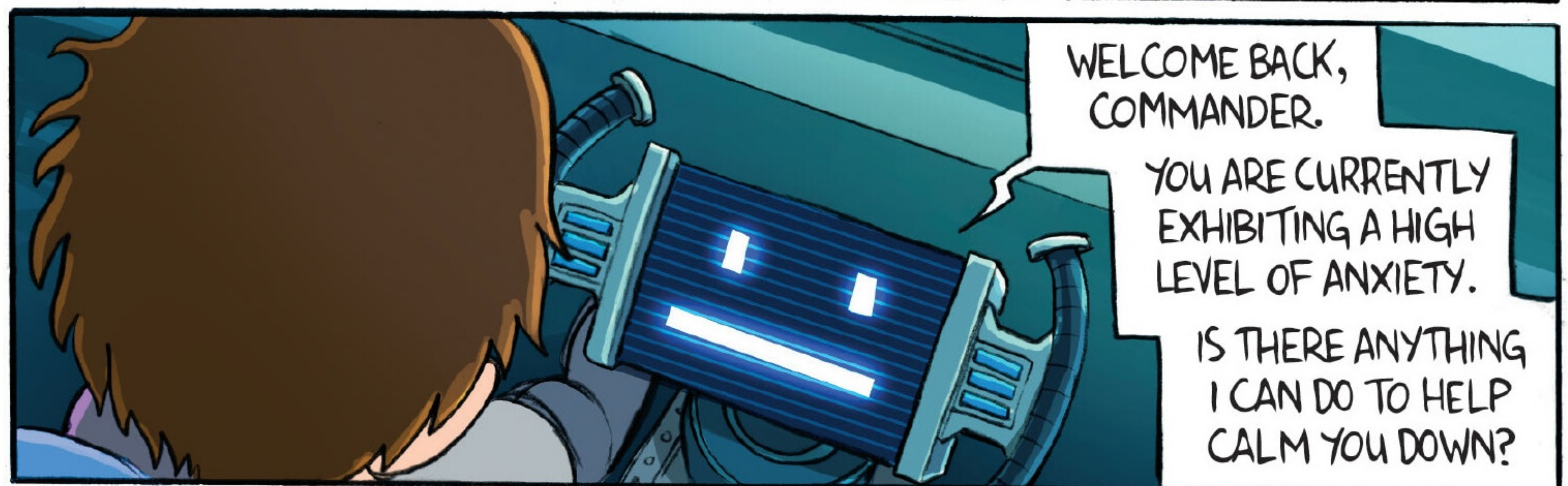
I THINK
EMILY IS OKAY,
MOM.
I'M NOT WORRIED
ABOUT HER.

HOW CAN
YOU KNOW?!



ESPECIALLY
AFTER WHAT
THAT MAN
SAID?!

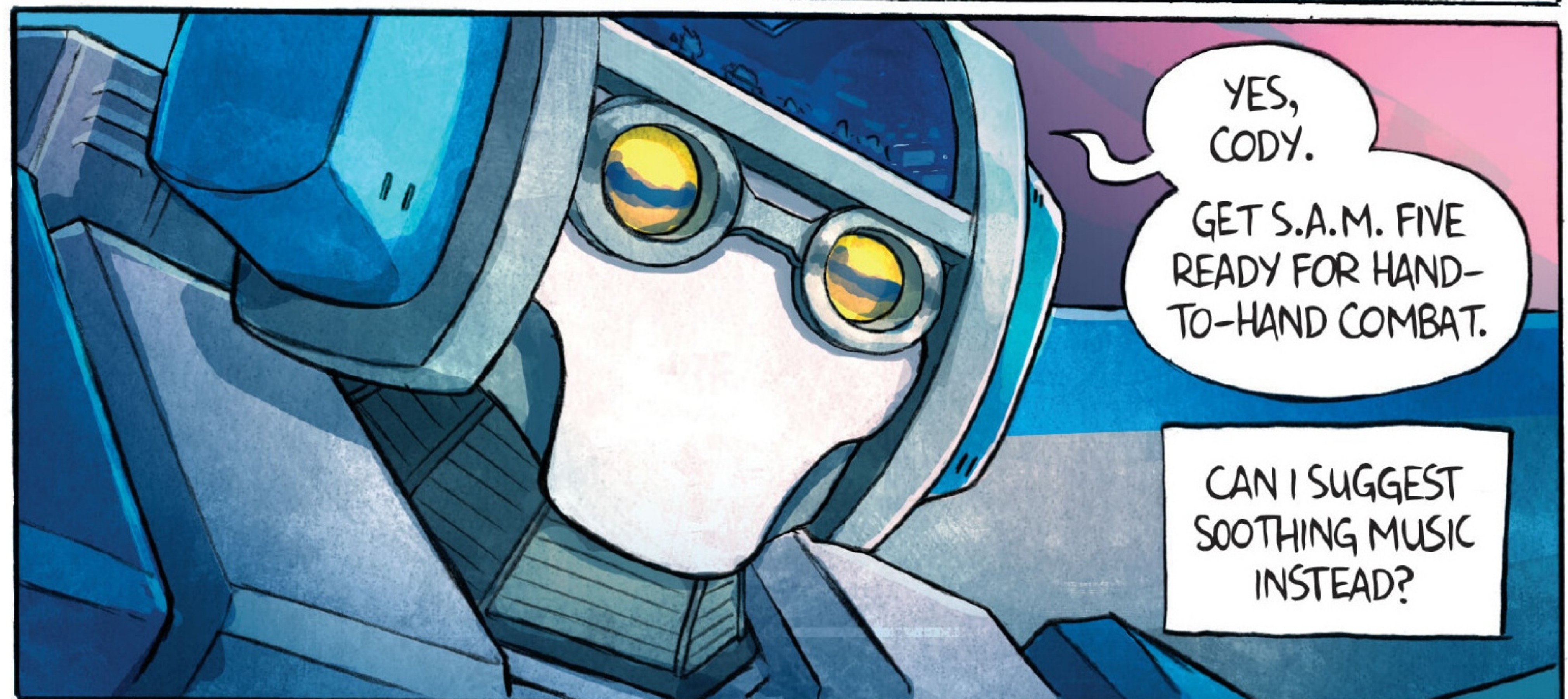
I JUST
HAVE A STRONG
FEELING.



WELCOME BACK,
COMMANDER.

YOU ARE CURRENTLY
EXHIBITING A HIGH
LEVEL OF ANXIETY.

IS THERE ANYTHING
I CAN DO TO HELP
CALM YOU DOWN?

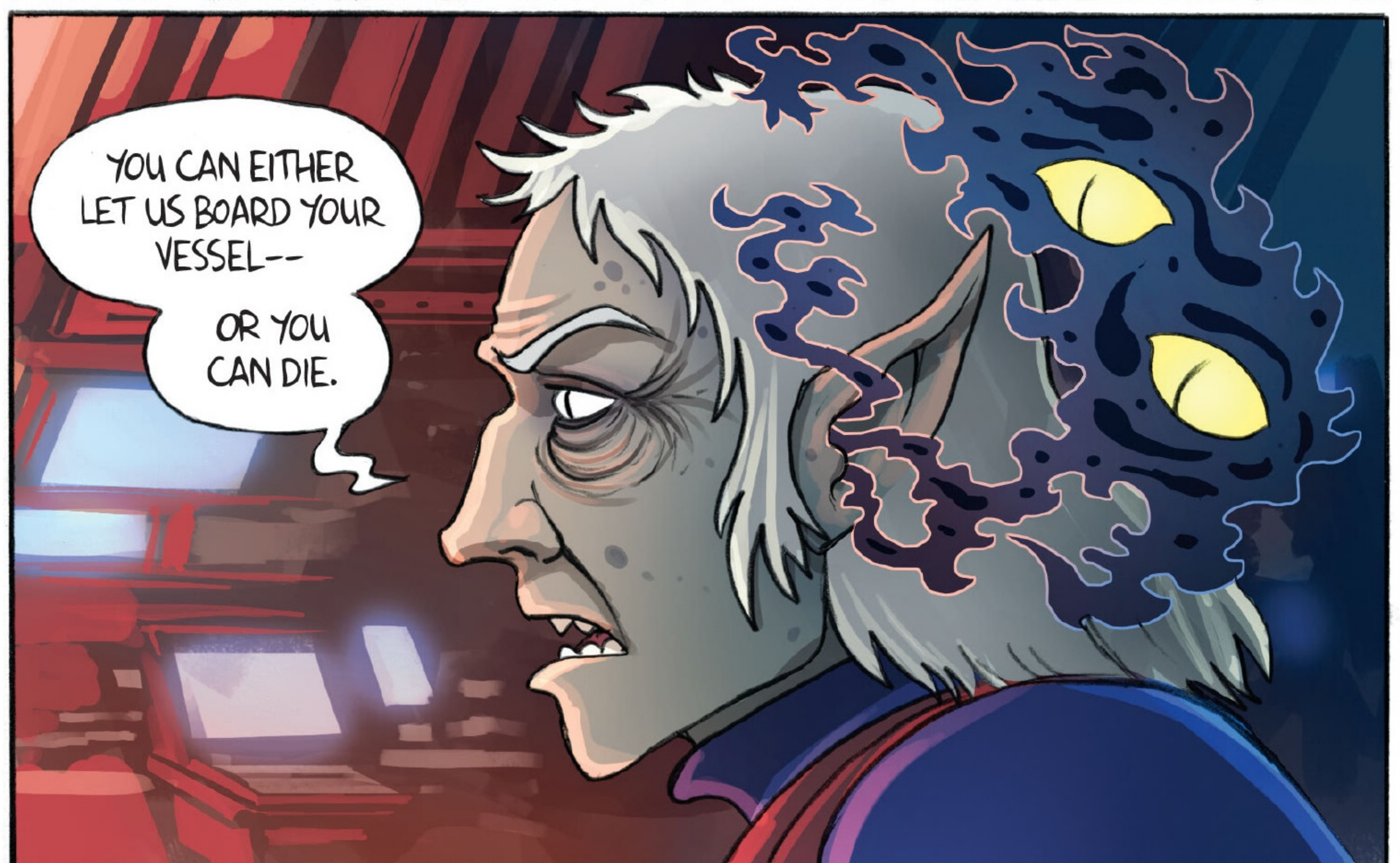
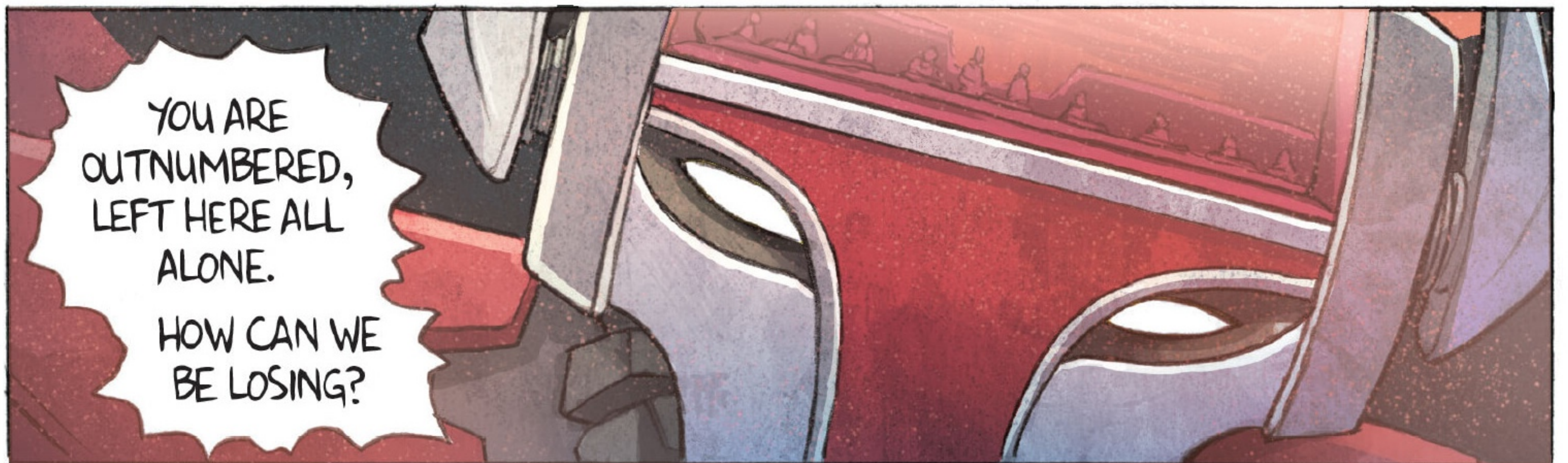


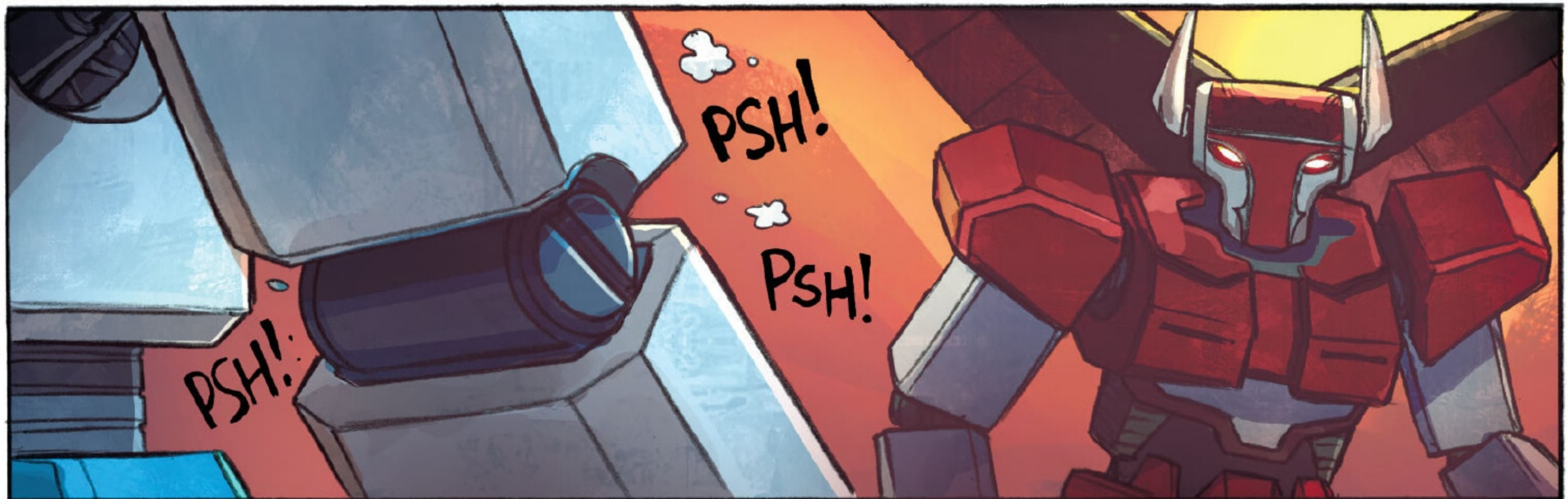
YES,
CODY.

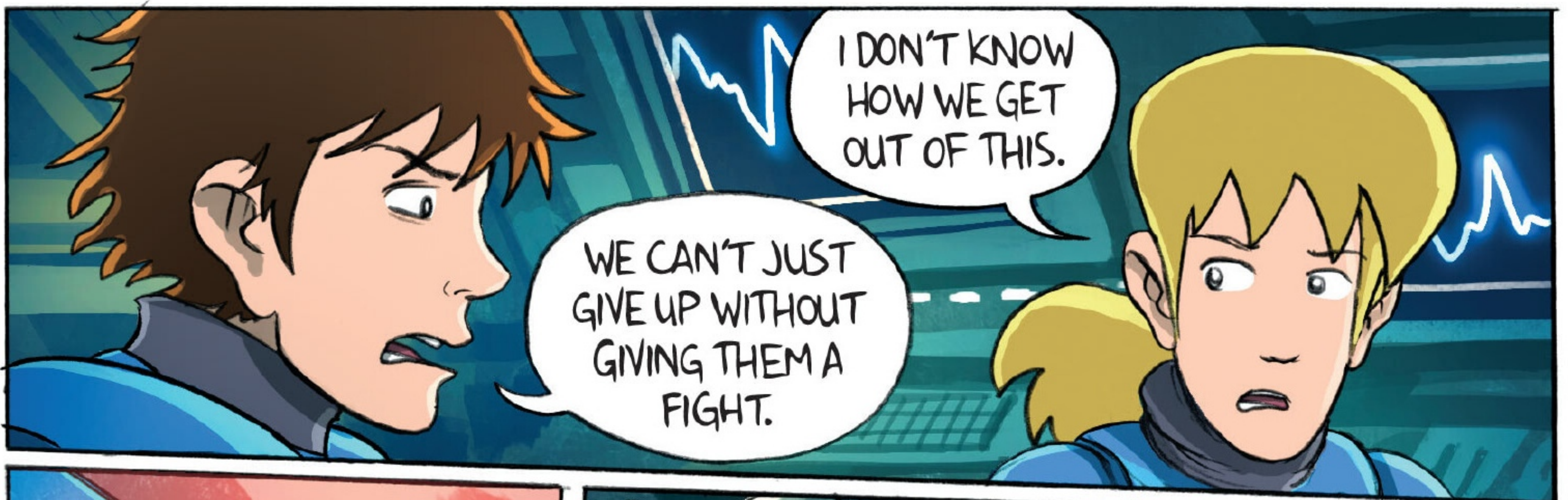
GET S.A.M. FIVE
READY FOR HAND-
TO-HAND COMBAT.

CAN I SUGGEST
SOOTHING MUSIC
INSTEAD?







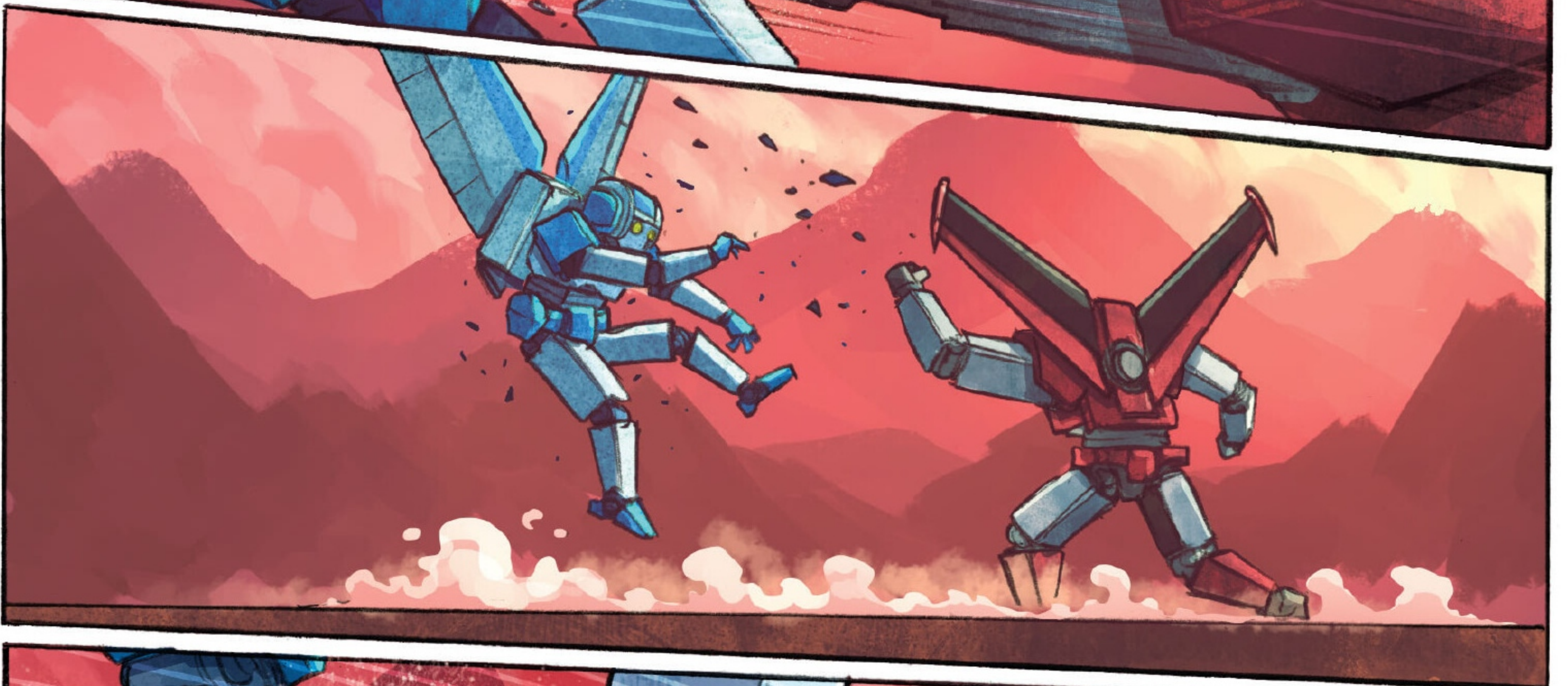
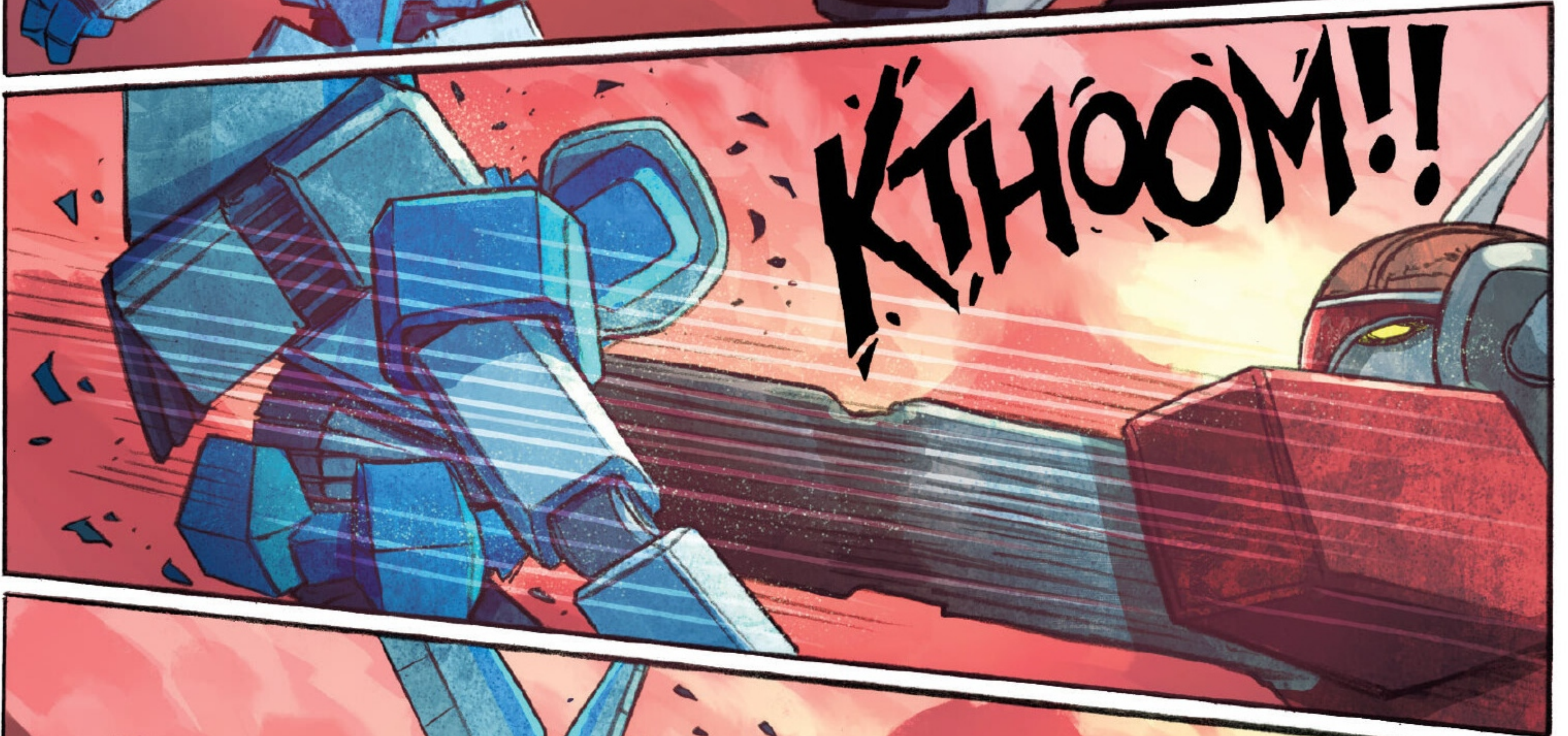
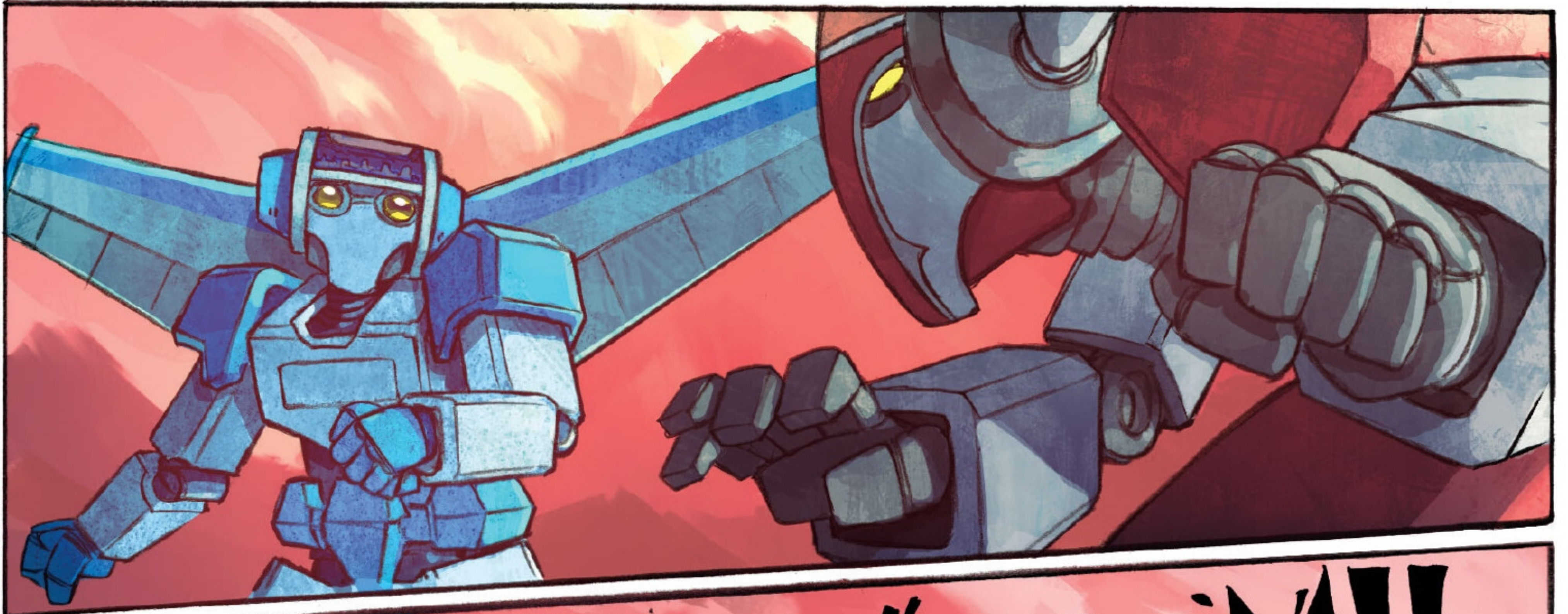


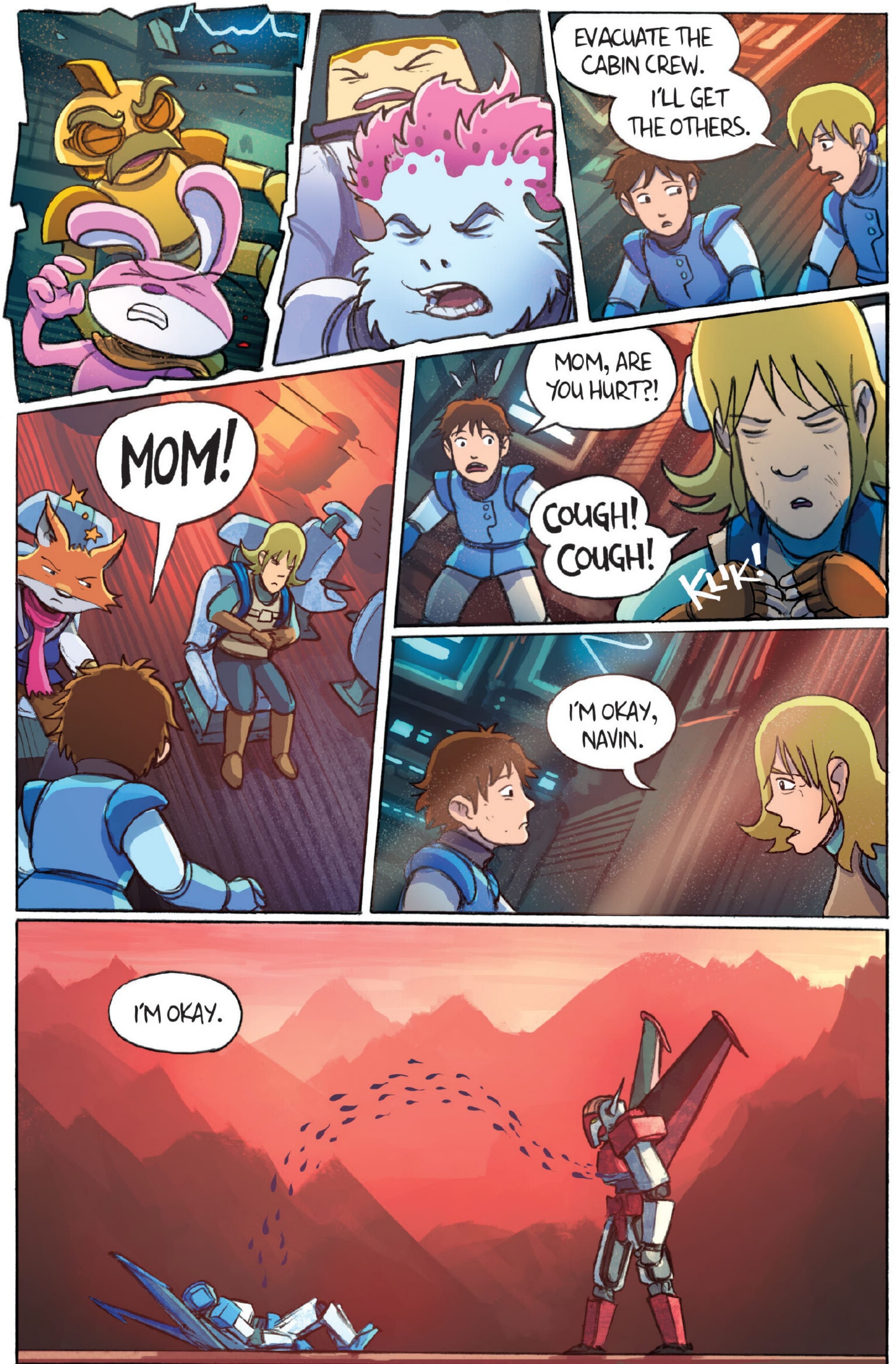
NAVIN,
GET US OUT
OF HERE
NOW!

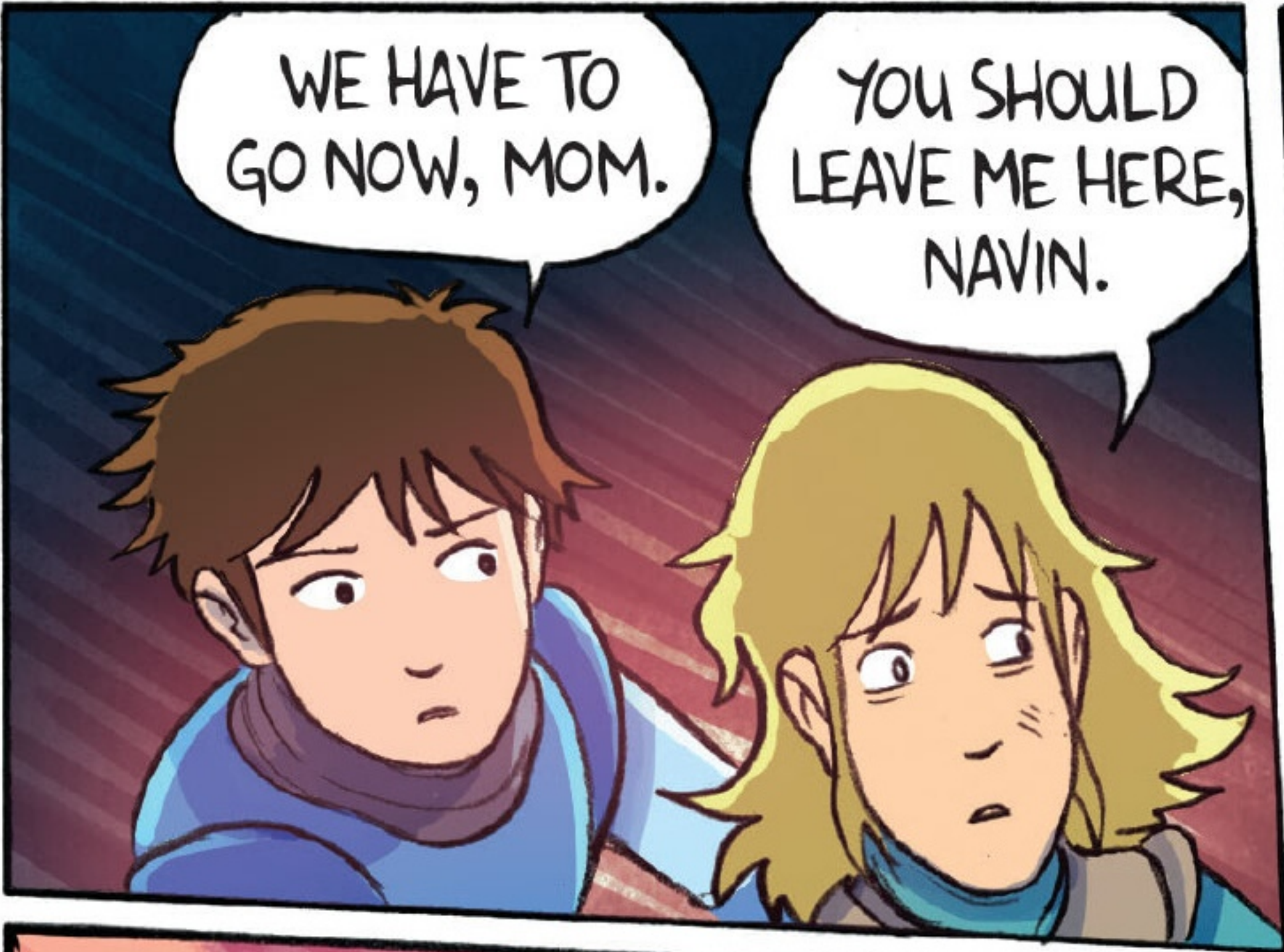


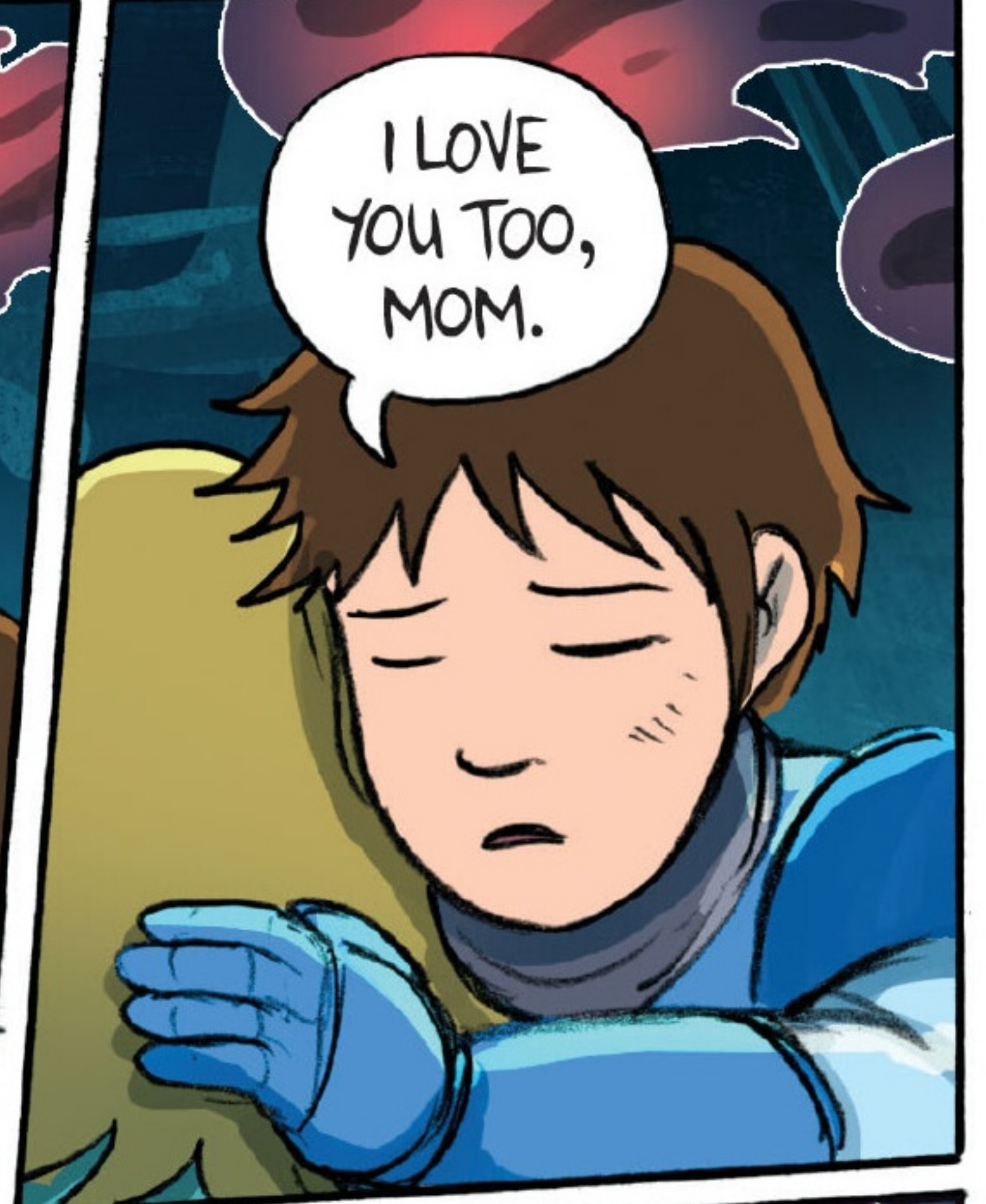
WE DON'T
HAVE TIME!
EVERYONE
BRACE FOR
IMPACT!



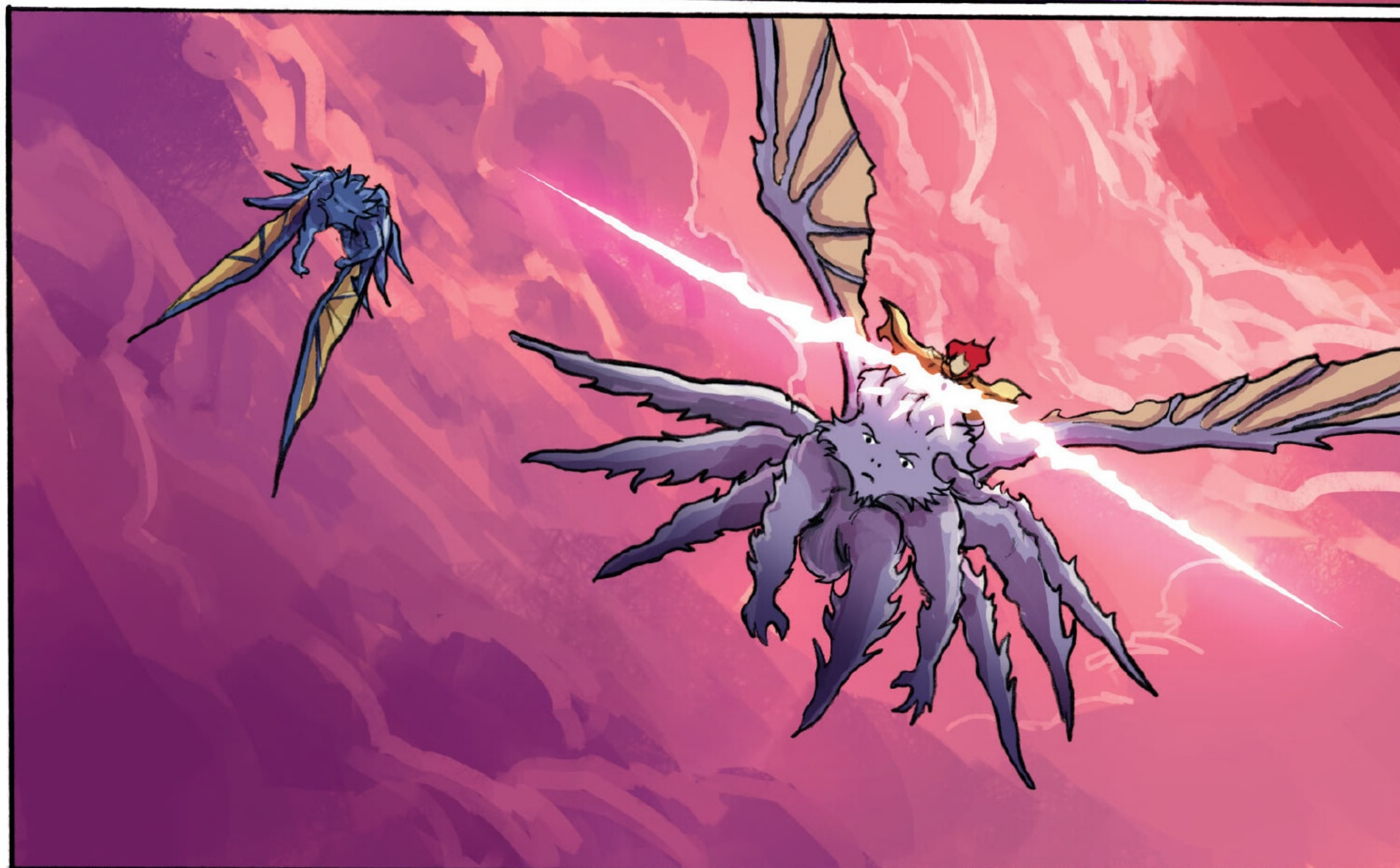
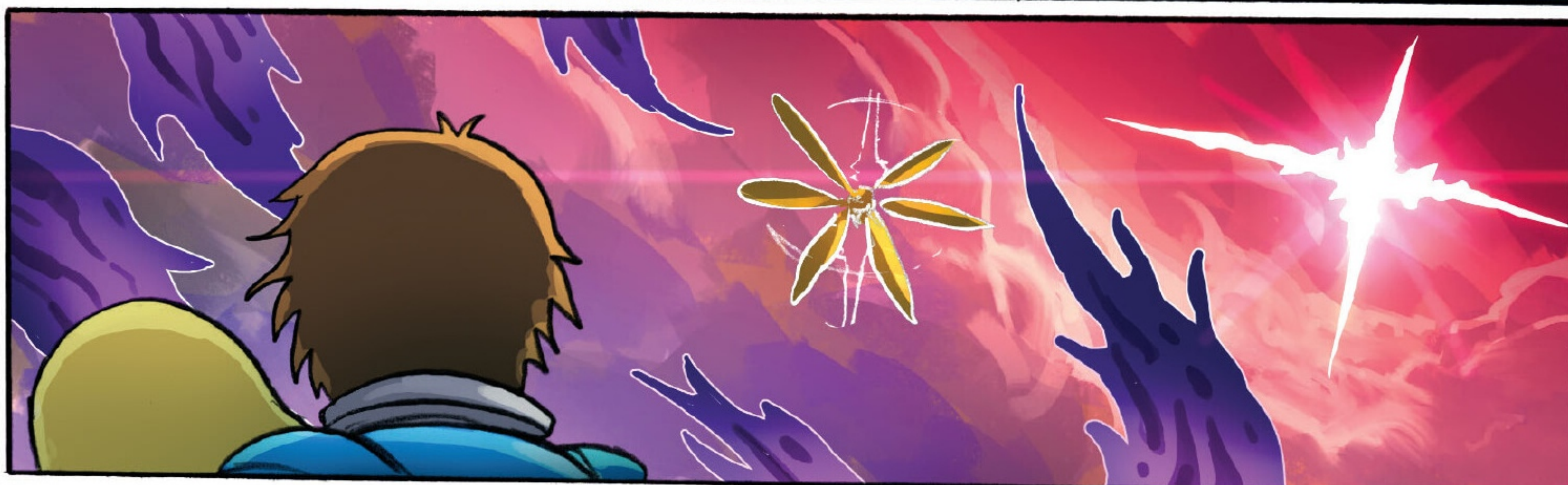
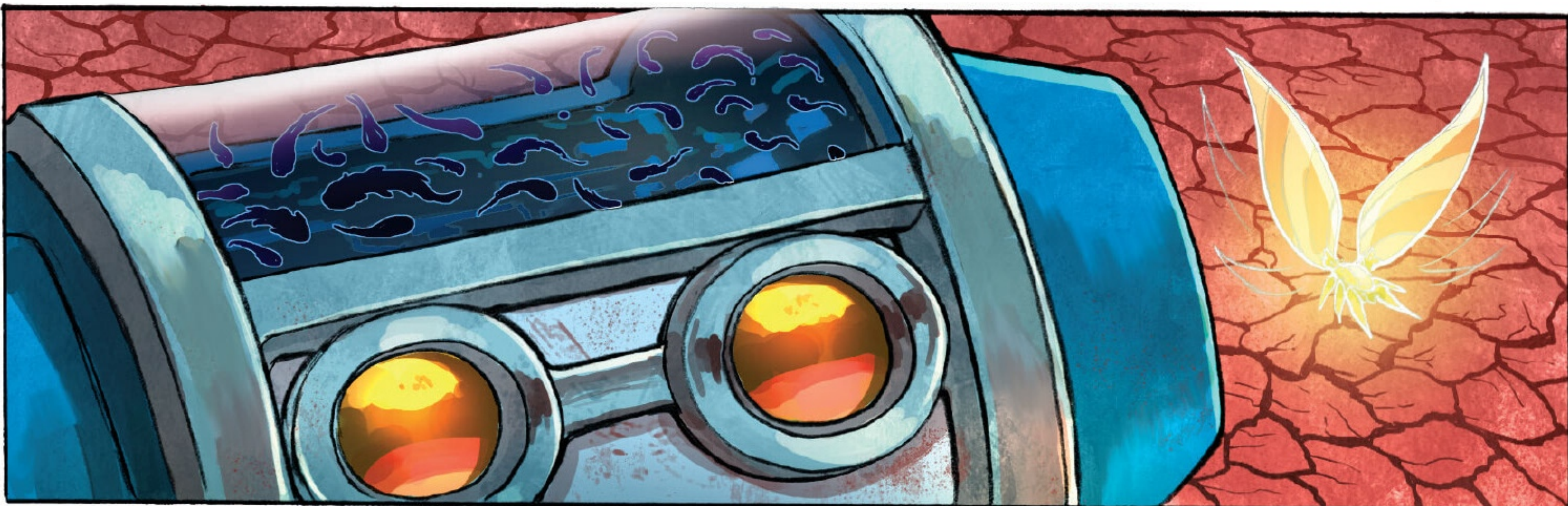


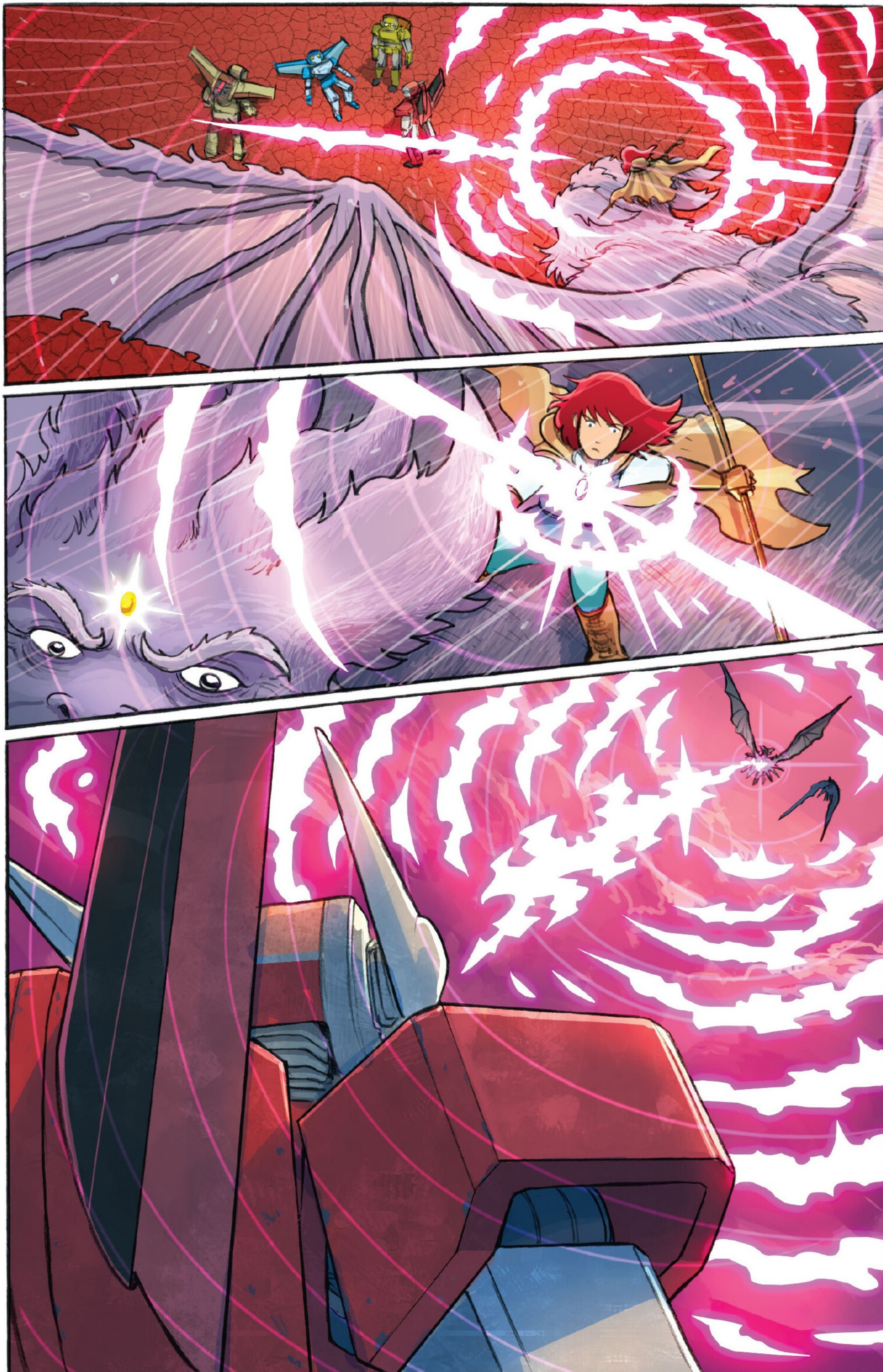


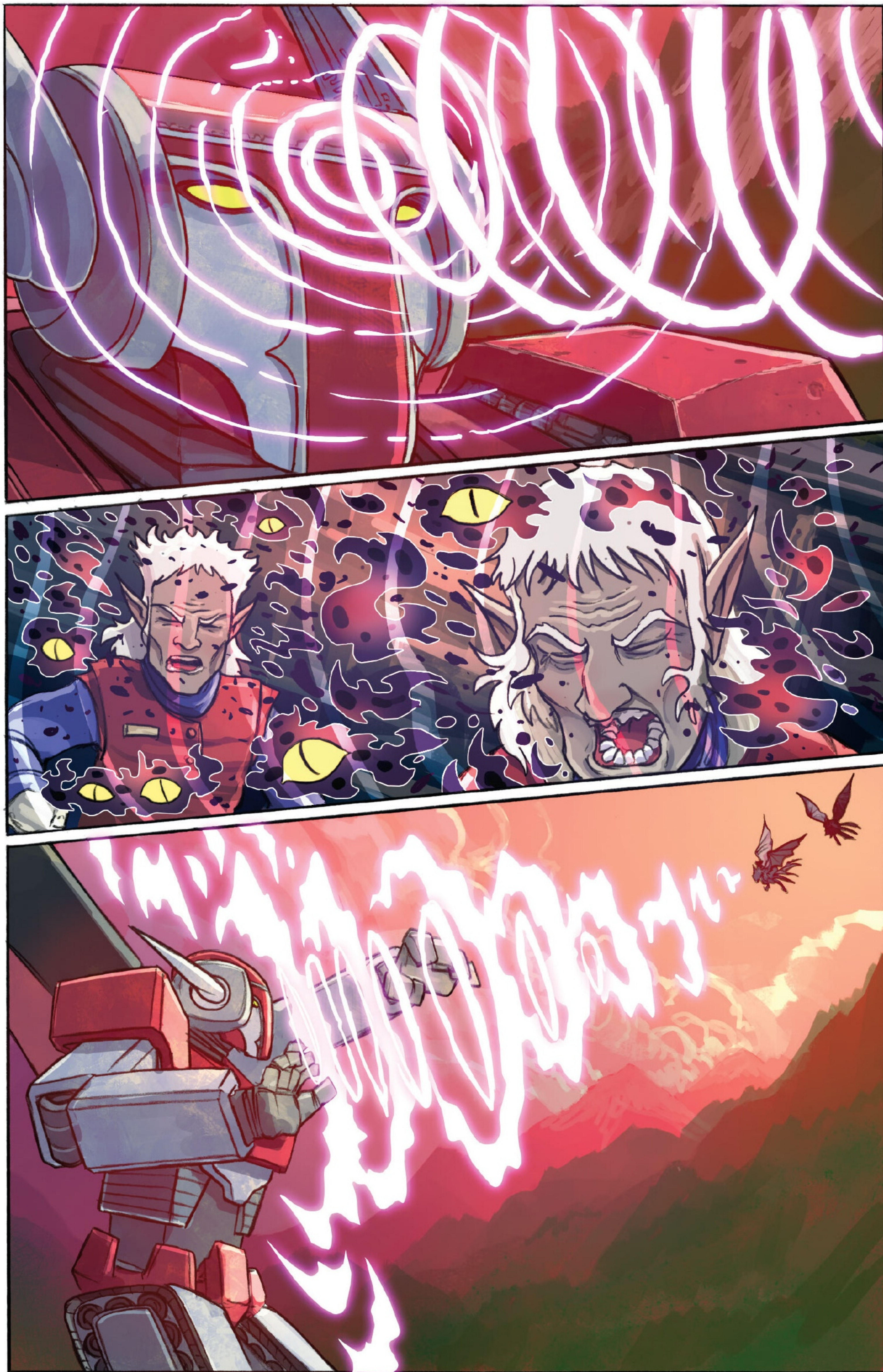


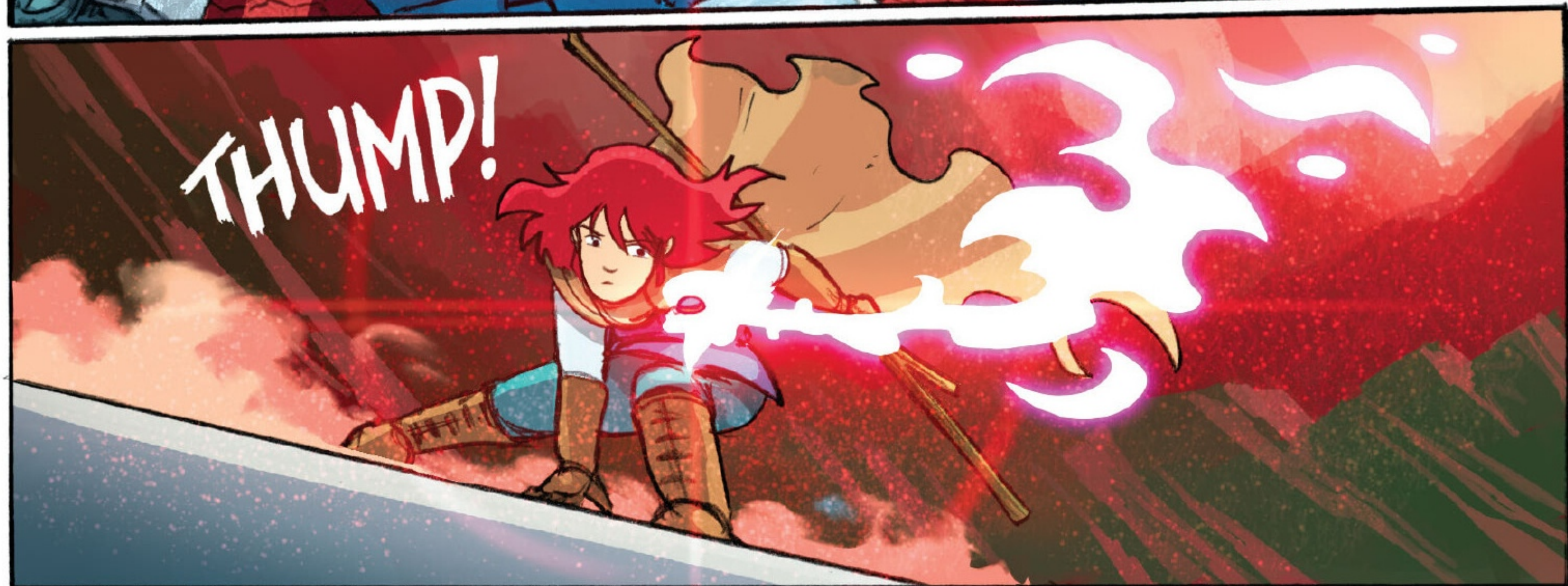
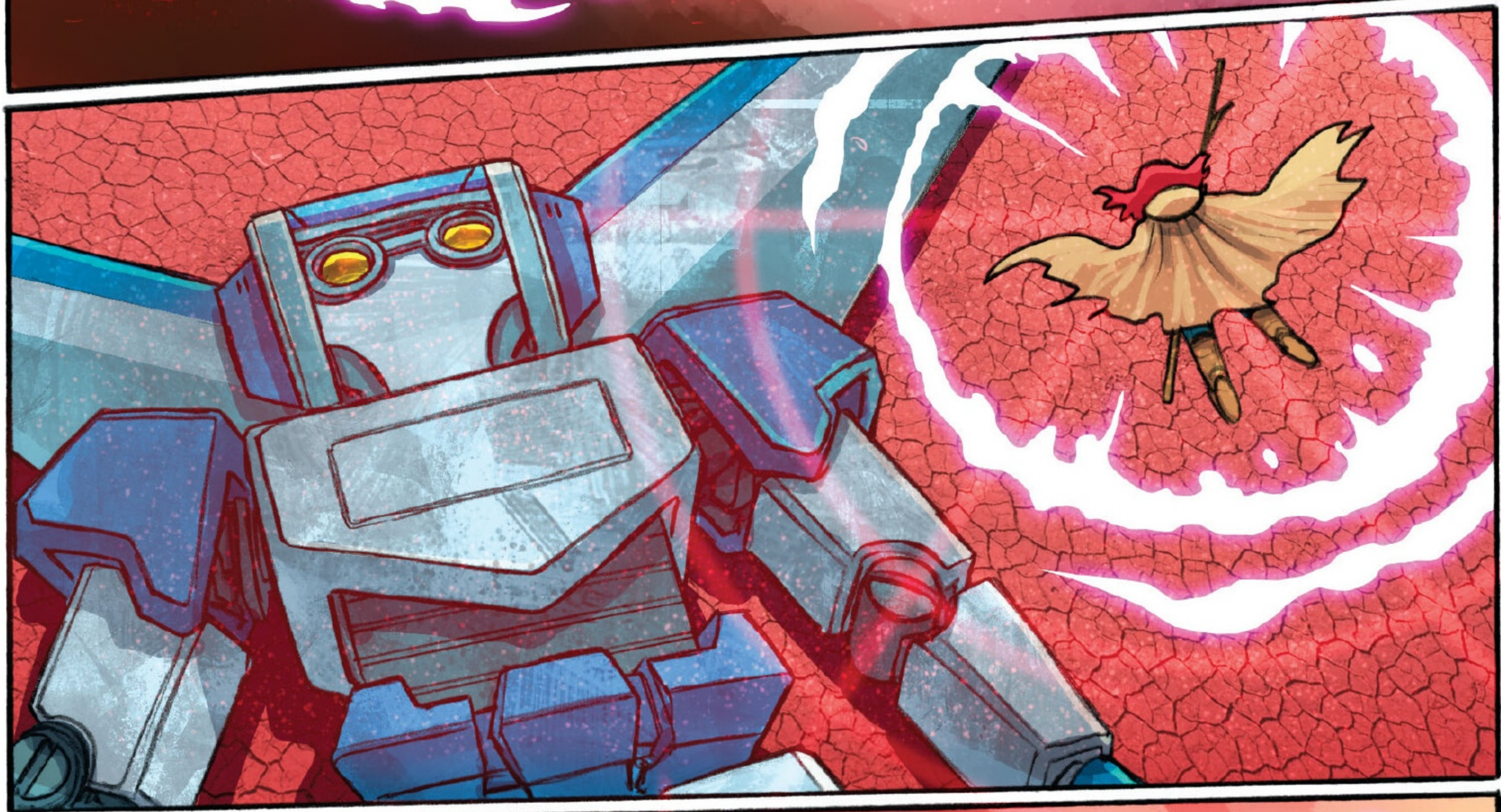


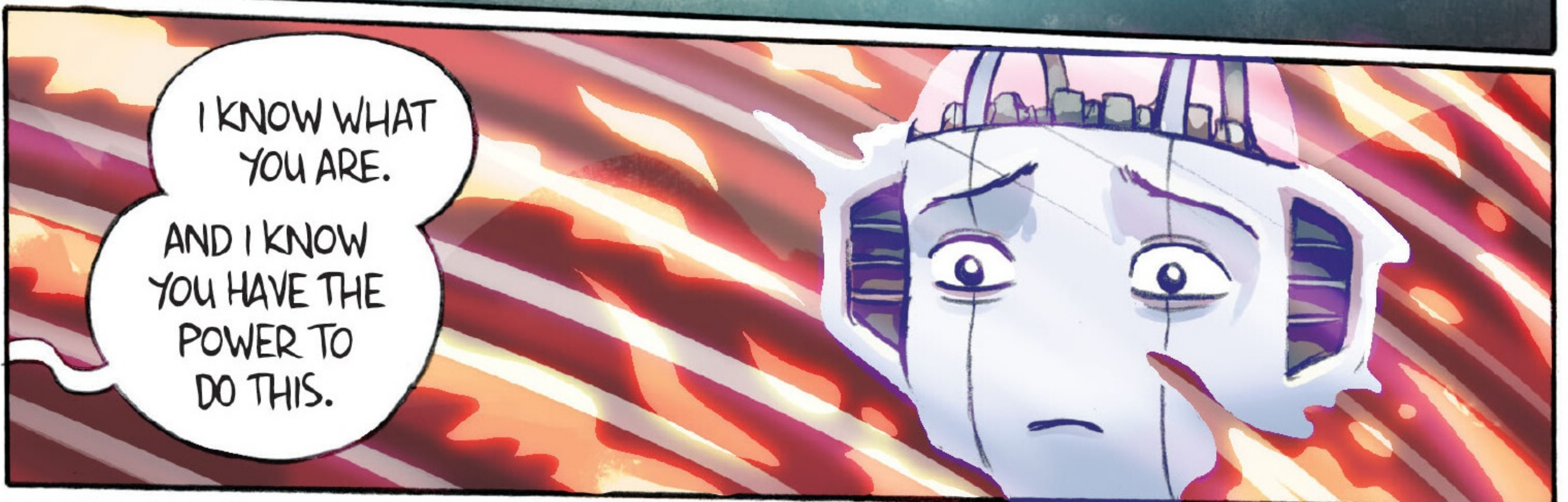
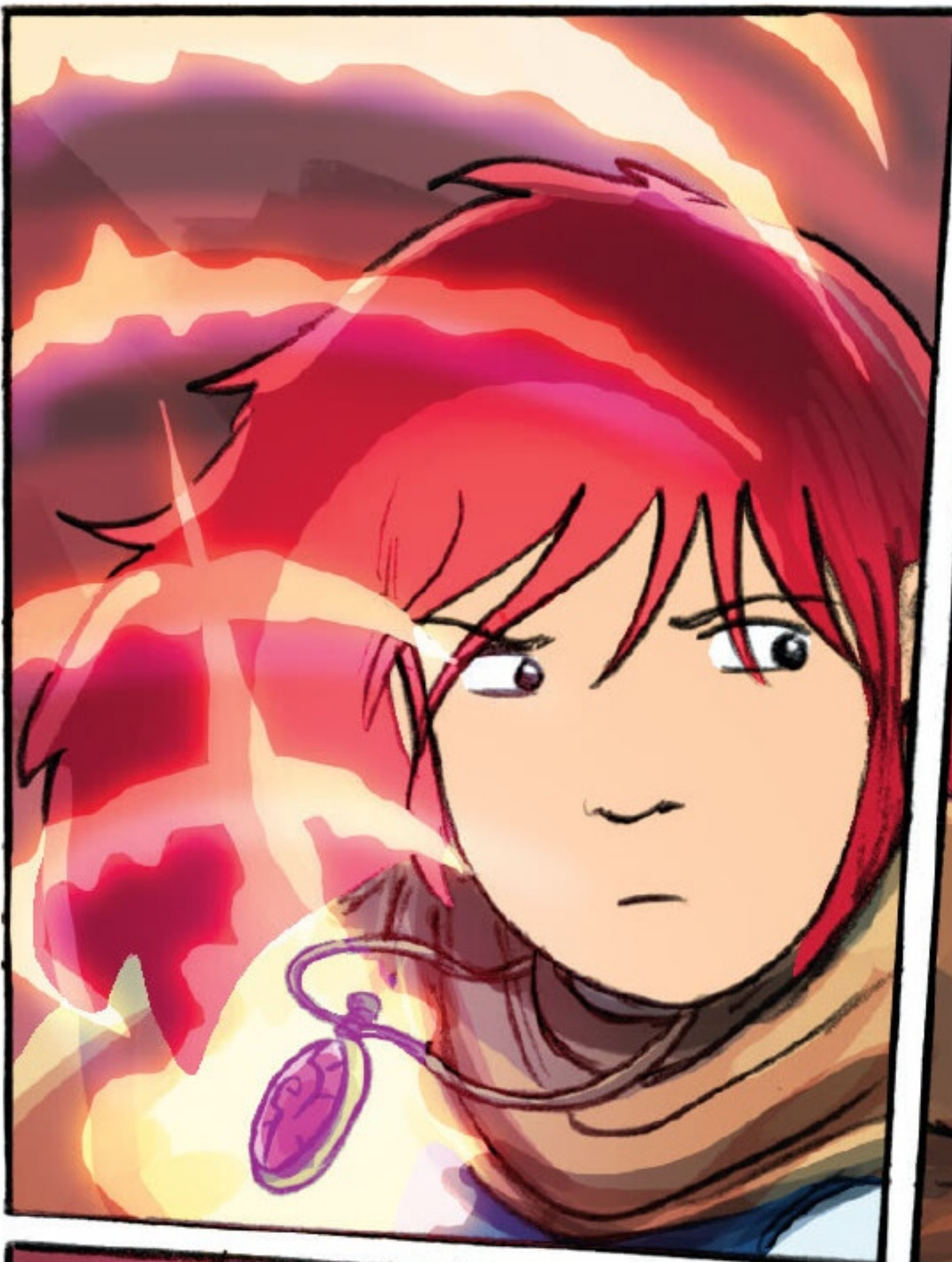


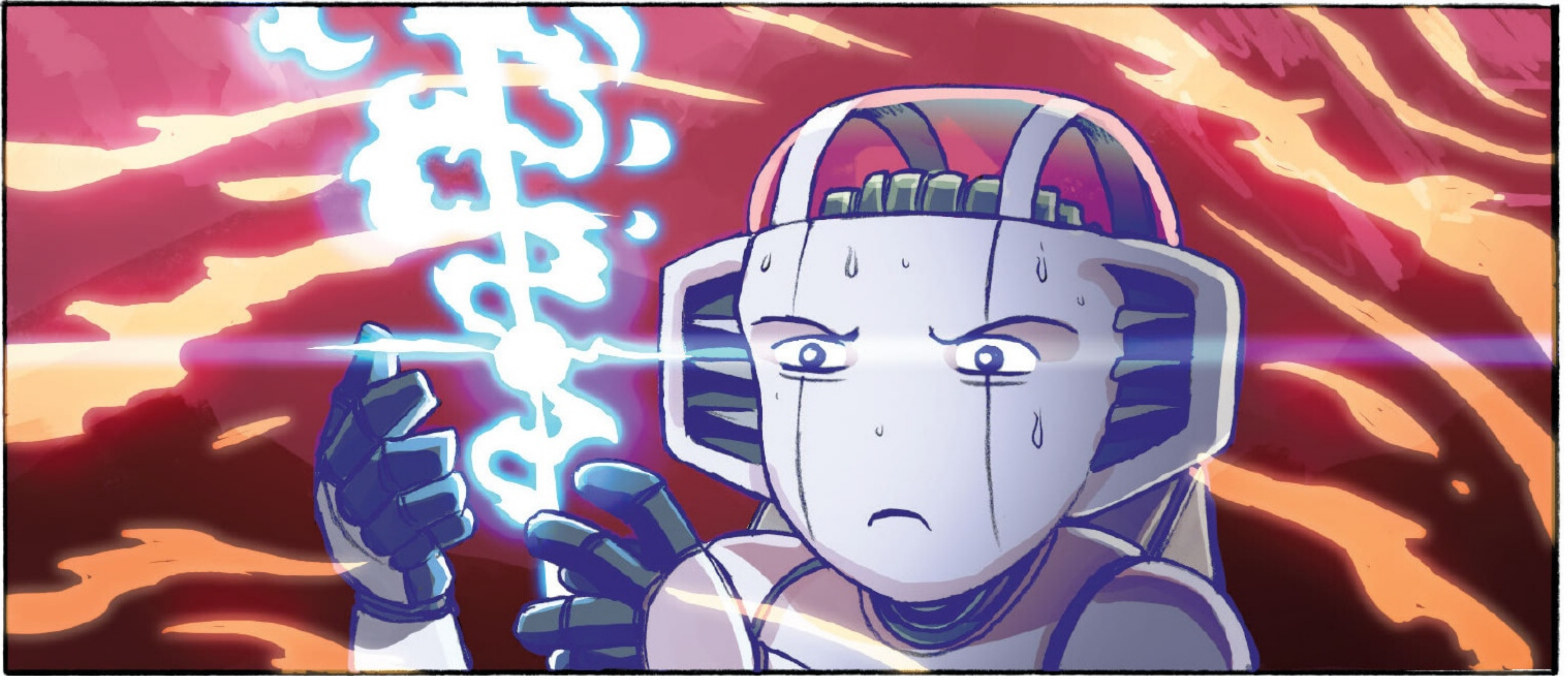


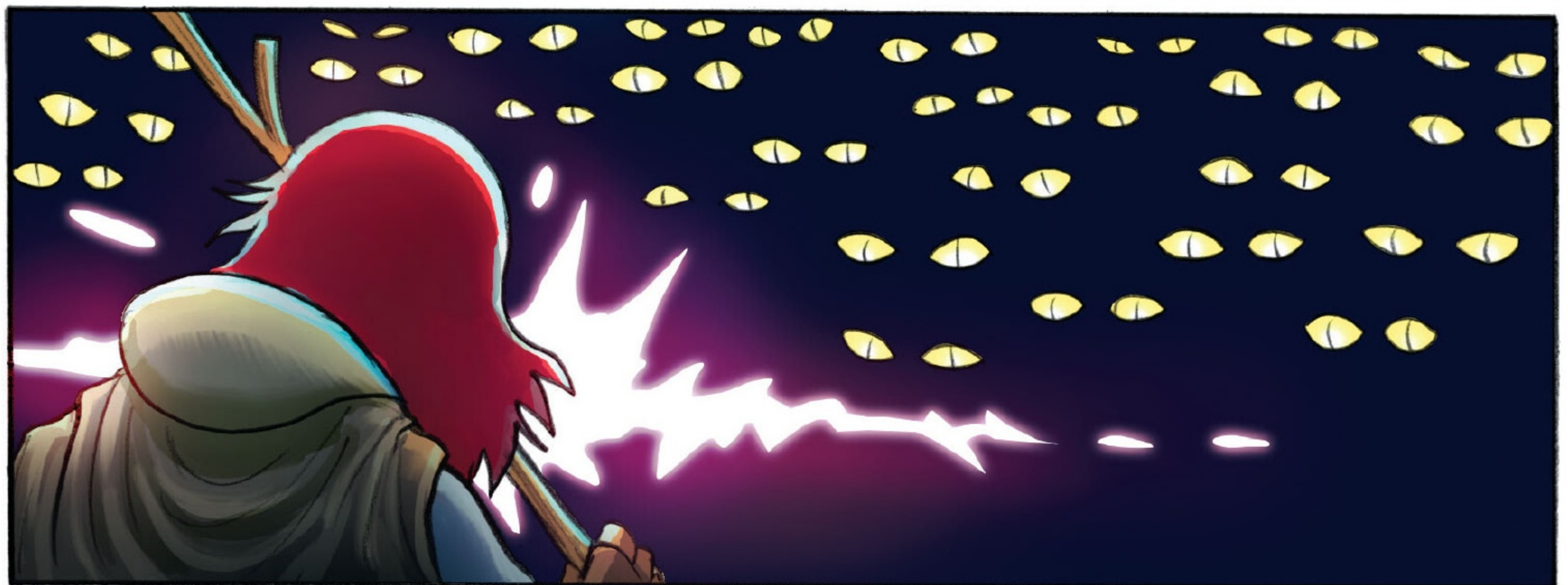
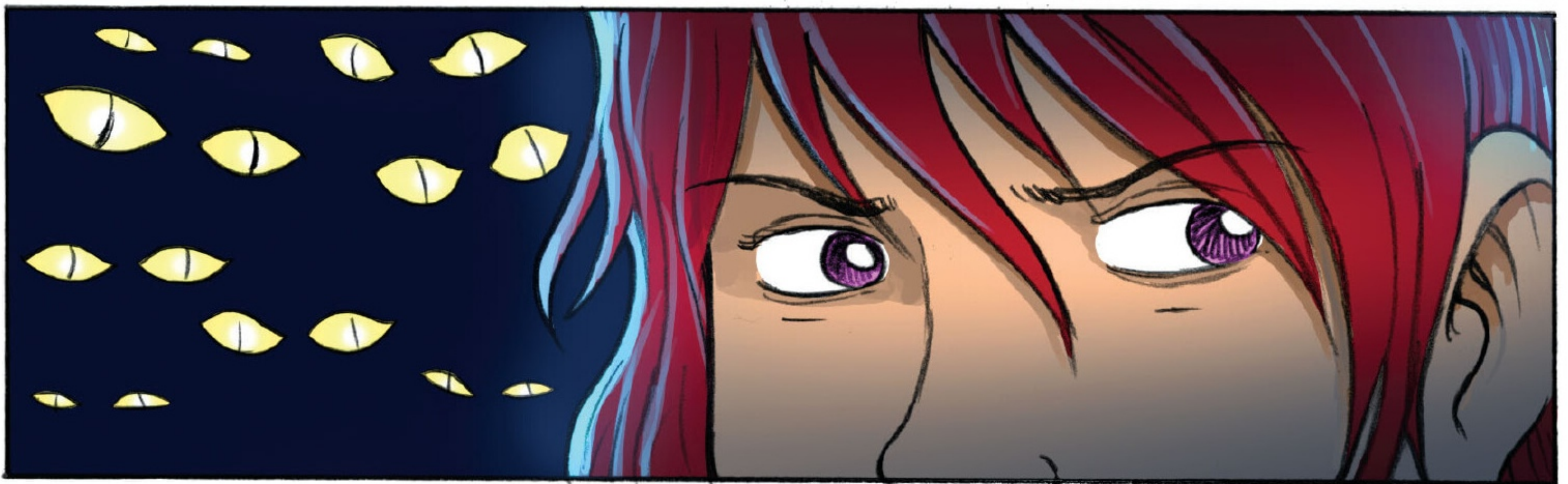
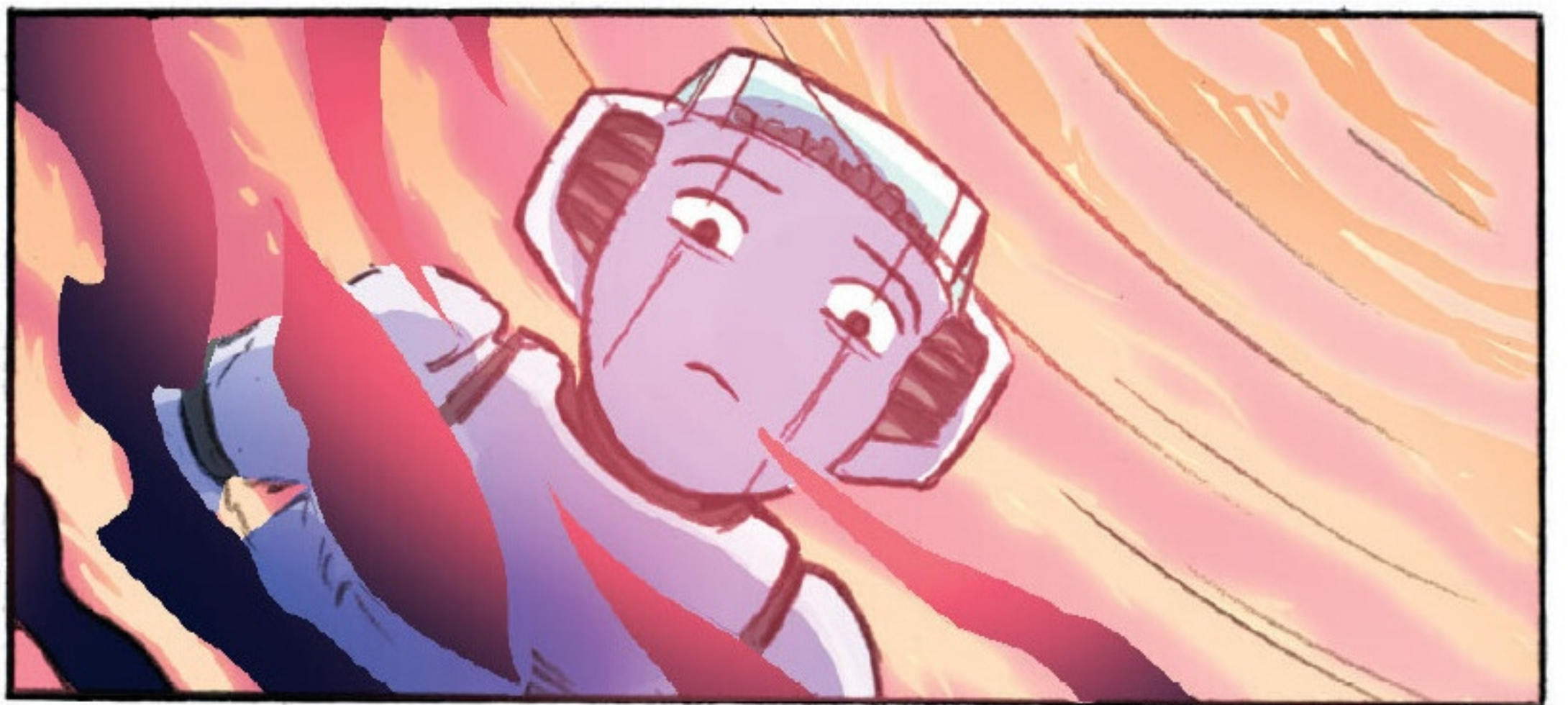
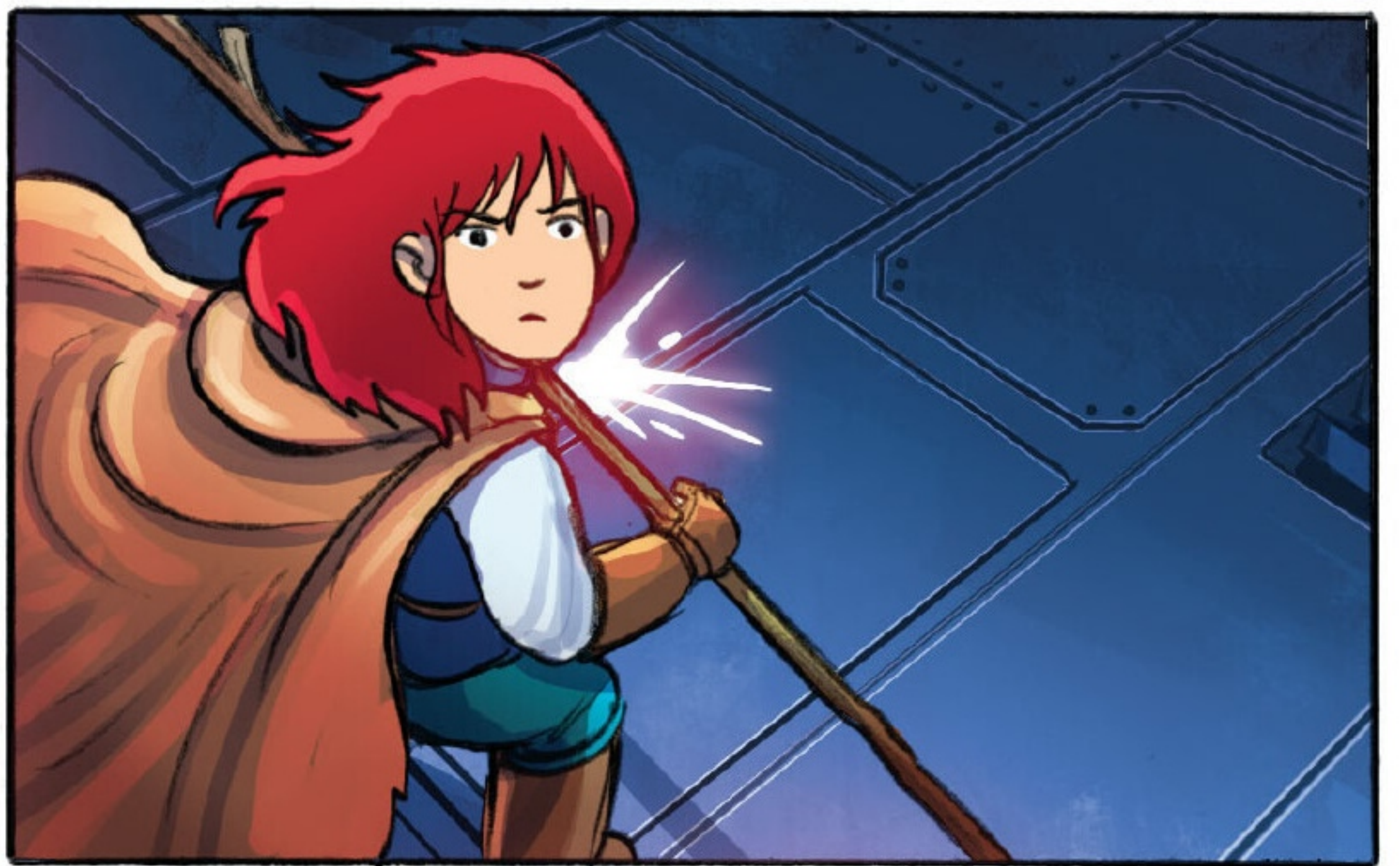


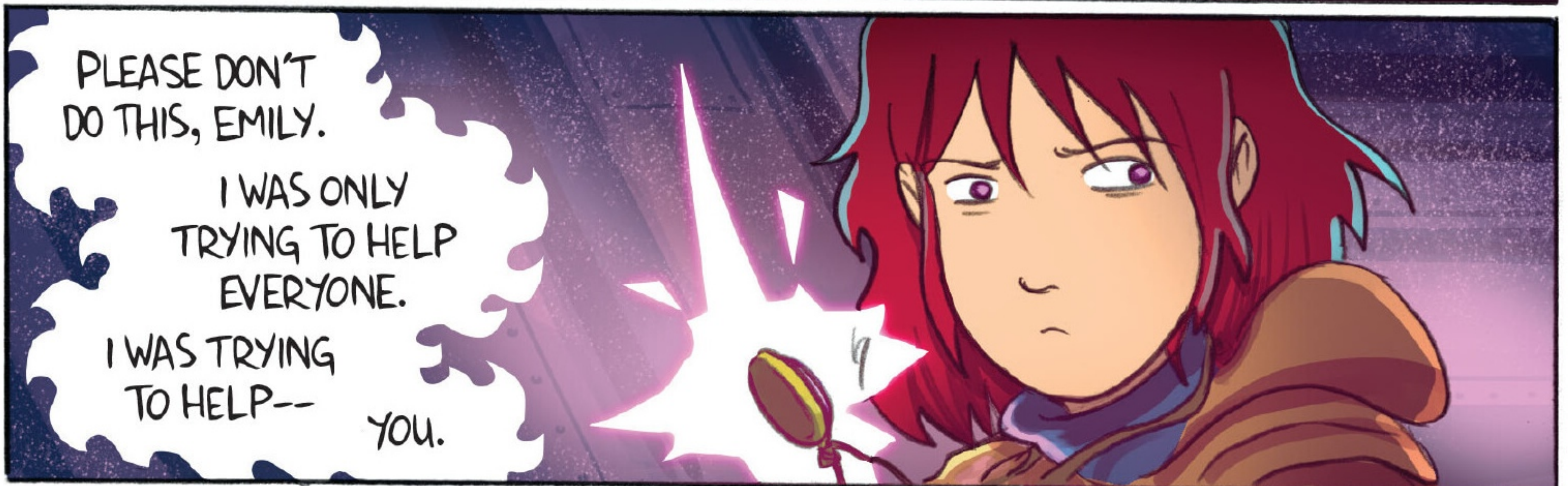














YOU POSSESSED
MY FAMILY --

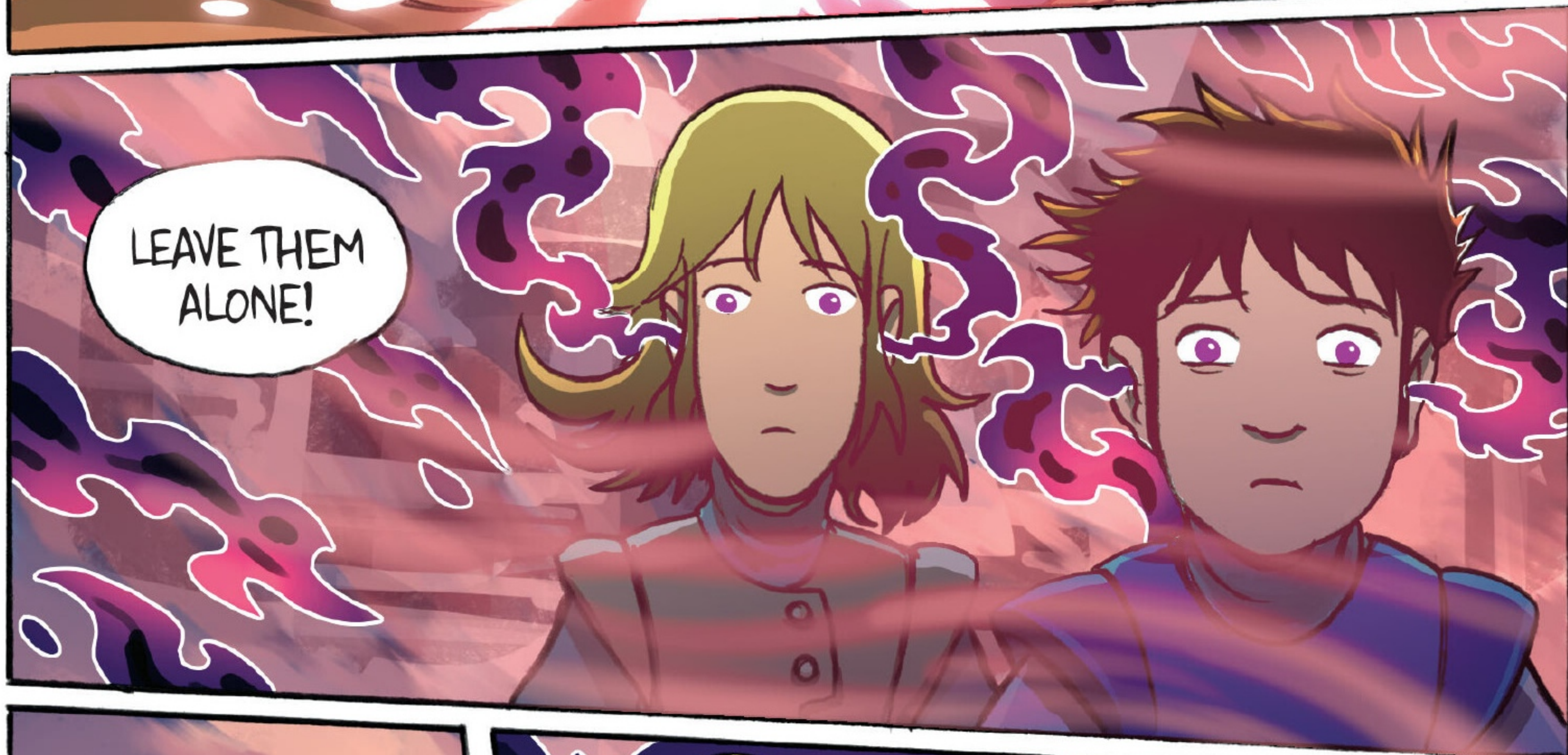
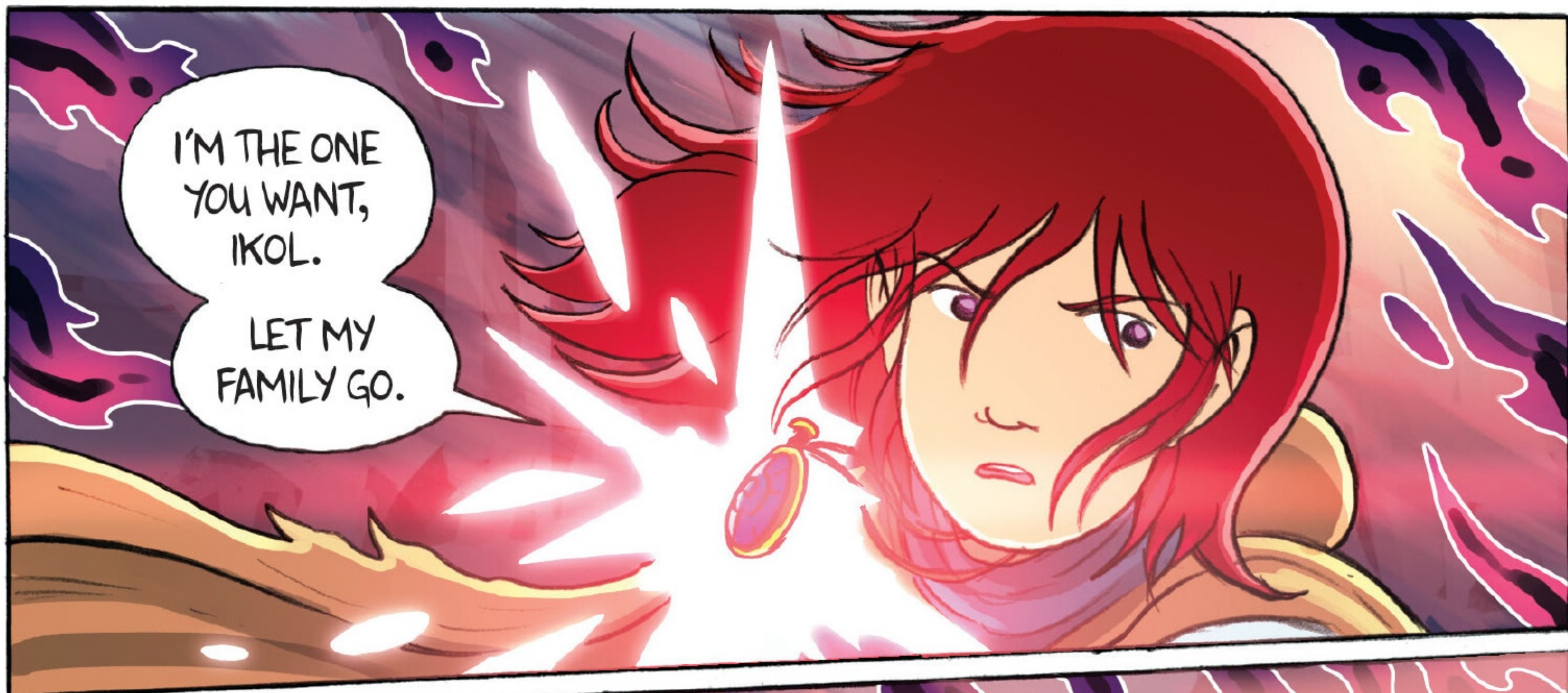
CAUSED NEEDLESS
DEATHS --

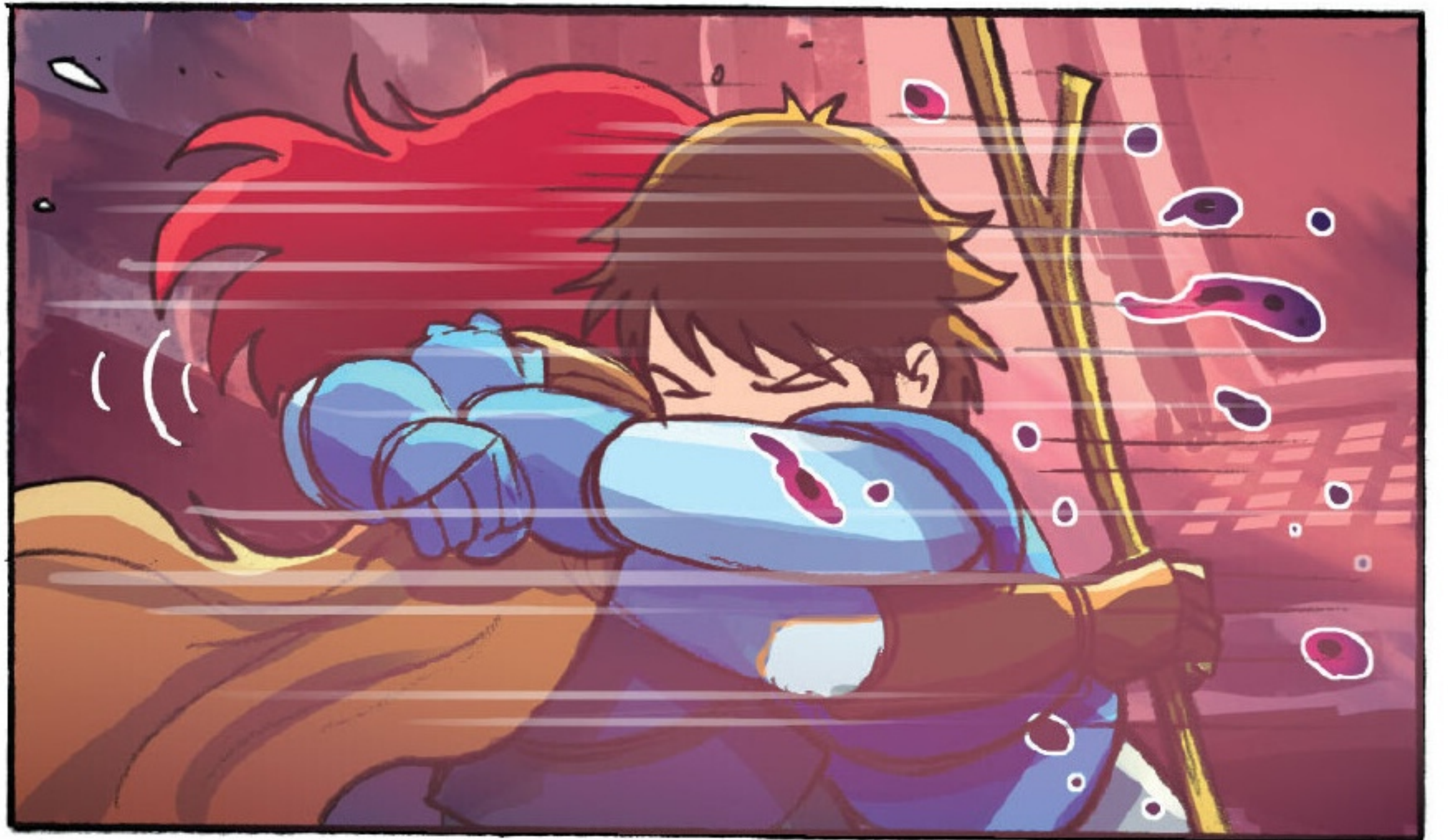
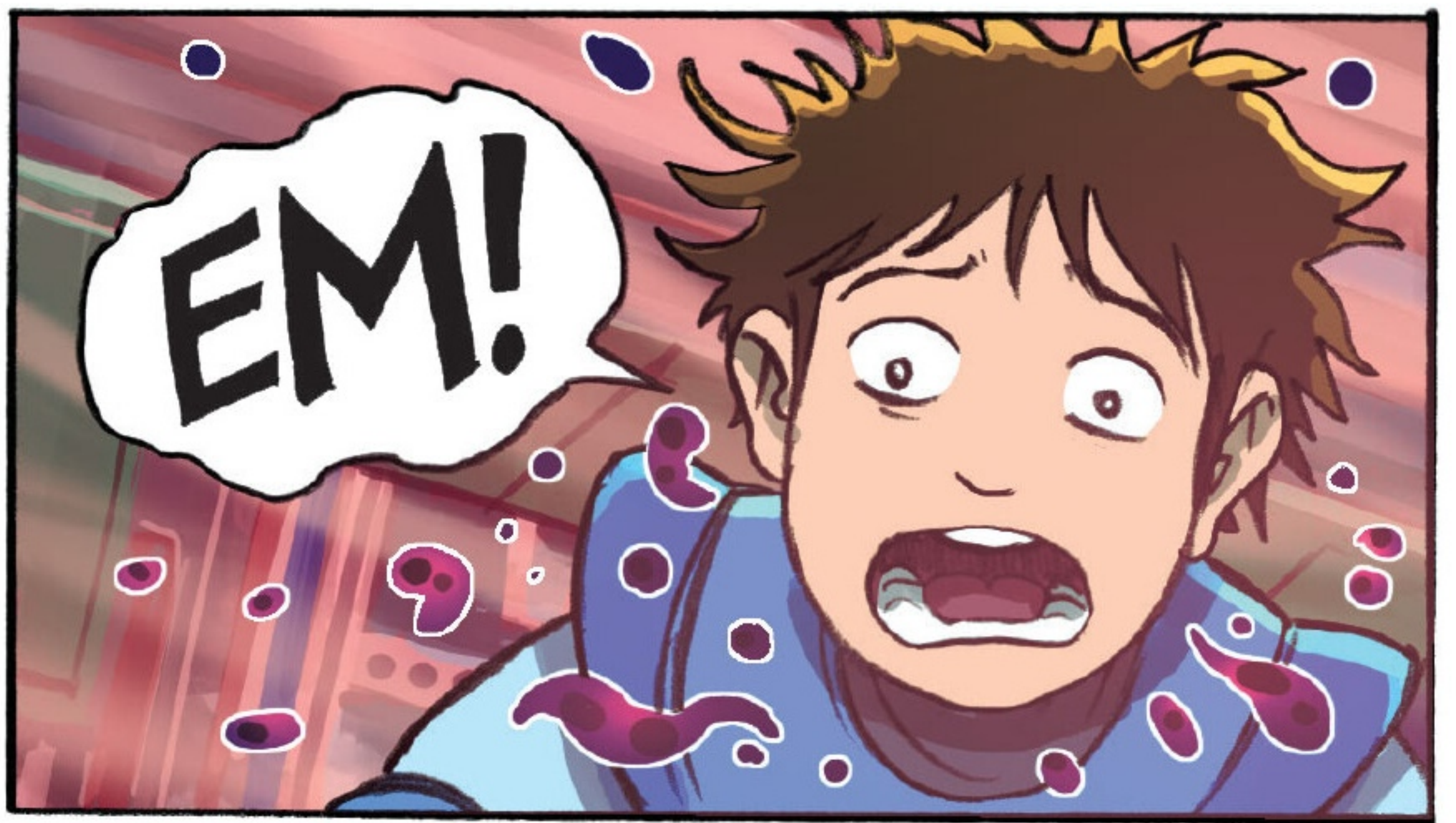
TREATED PEOPLE
LIKE LAB RATS FOR
YOUR EXPERIMENTS --

DISMANTLED
CIVILIZATIONS --

MANIPULATED
OTHERS FOR YOUR
OWN BENEFIT--











DO NOT
FORGET
ABOUT ME.



EMILY, DON'T LET HIM IN YOUR HEAD.



HE'S TRYING TO USE YOUR POWER. DON'T LET HIM.

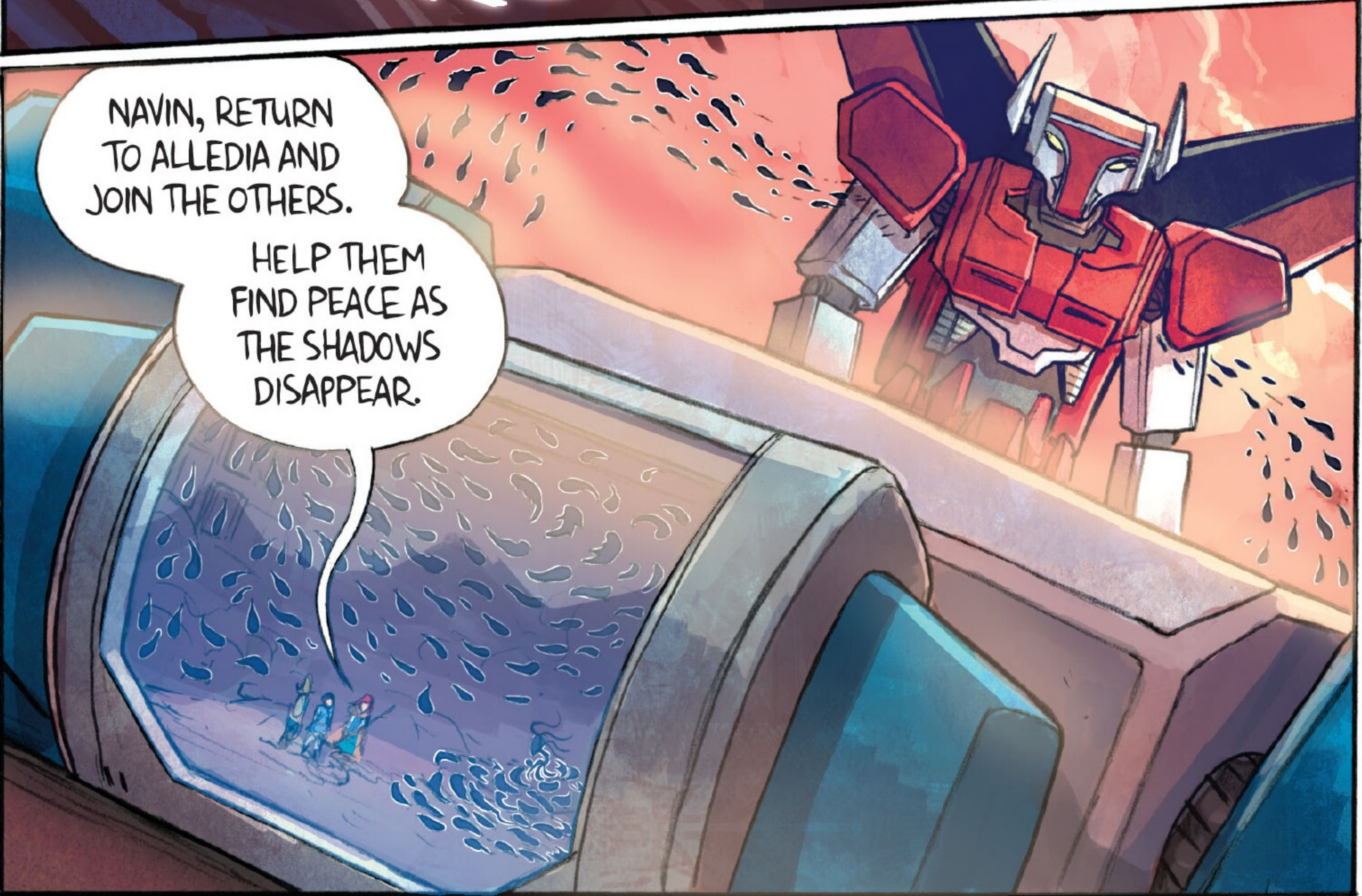


YOU WERE RIGHT FROM THE START, NAVIN. I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LISTENED TO IKOL.

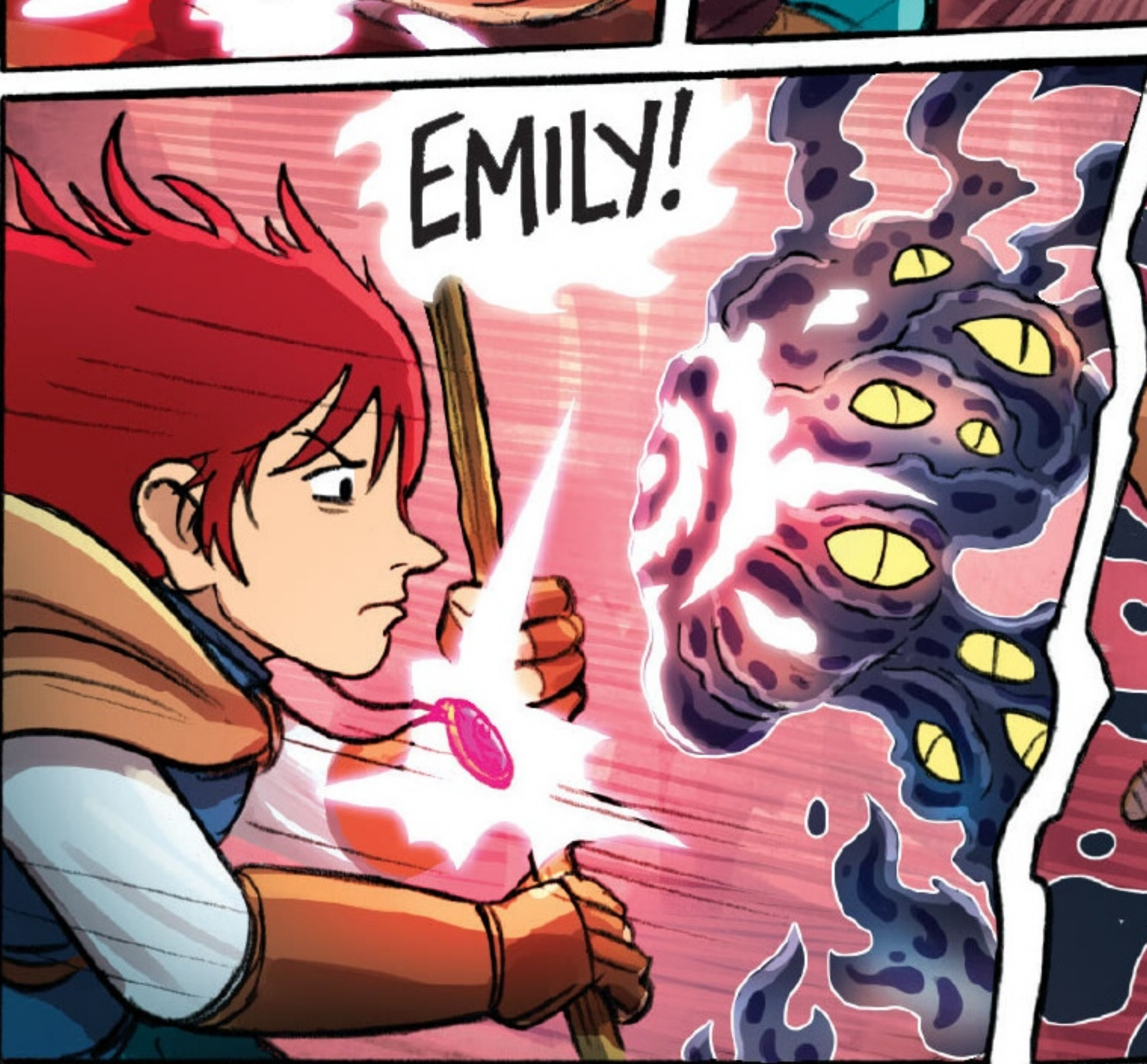
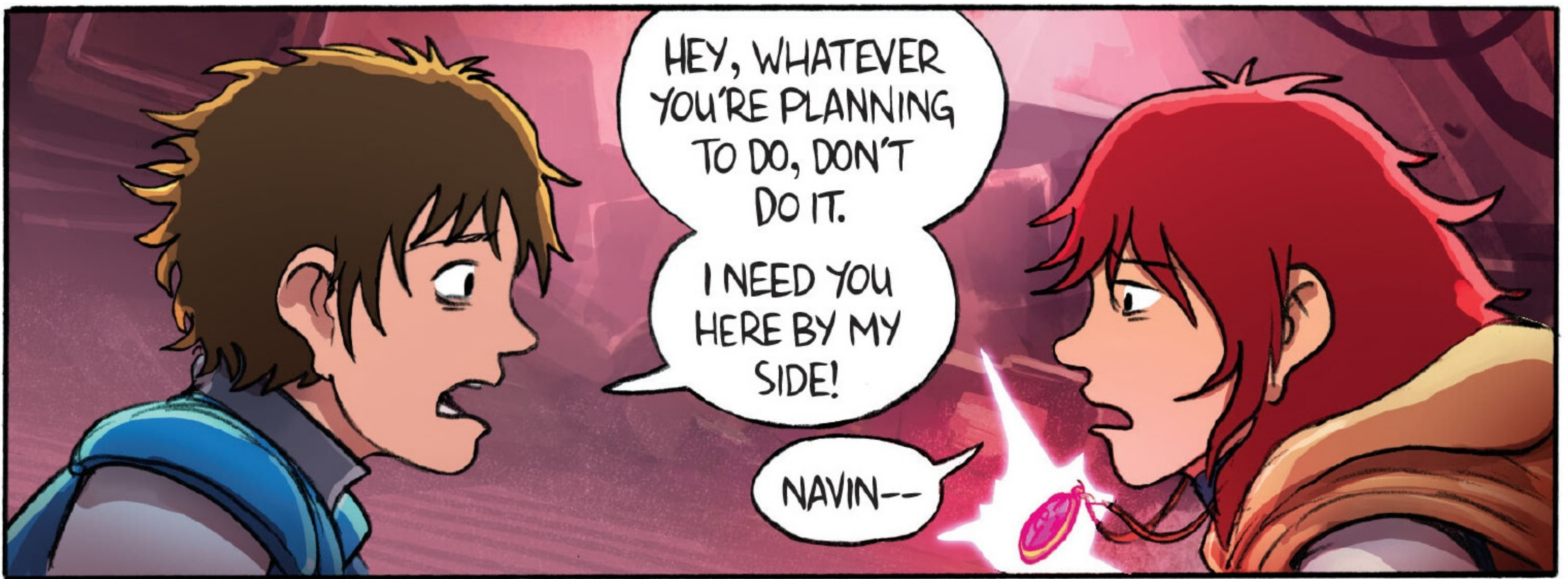


BUT I DID LISTEN TO HIM, AND NOW I HELPED CAUSE ALL THIS TROUBLE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, EMILY?



NAVIN, RETURN TO ALLEDIA AND JOIN THE OTHERS. HELP THEM FIND PEACE AS THE SHADOWS DISAPPEAR.







JOIN US
DOWN HERE
WHERE IT IS
SAFE.

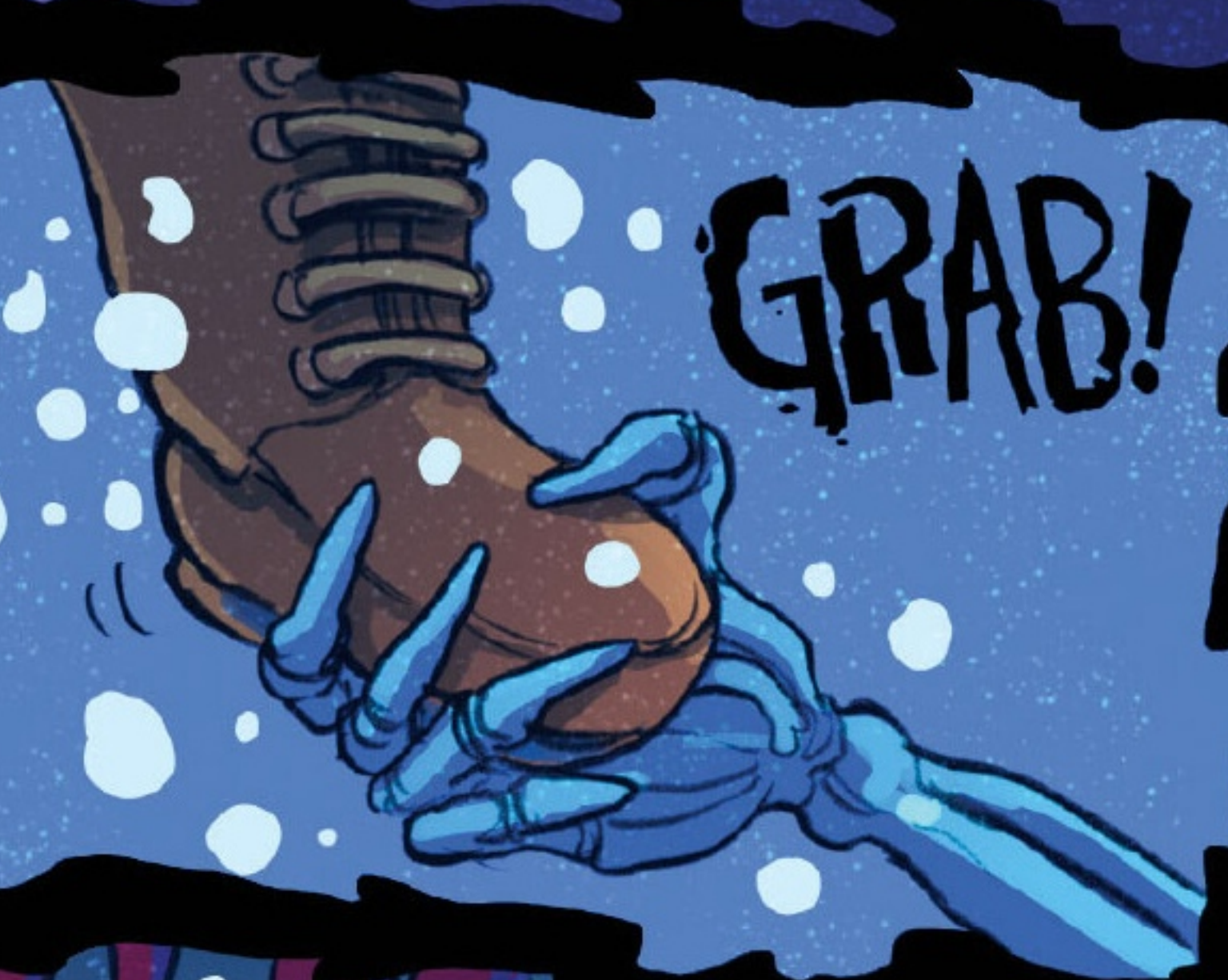
HIDE AWAY
WITH US.

DOWN HERE
WE CANNOT
BE HARMED.

PLEASE--



STAY
WITH US.



GRAB!



SAFE.

GIVE IN.

IT IS BETTER
DOWN HERE.

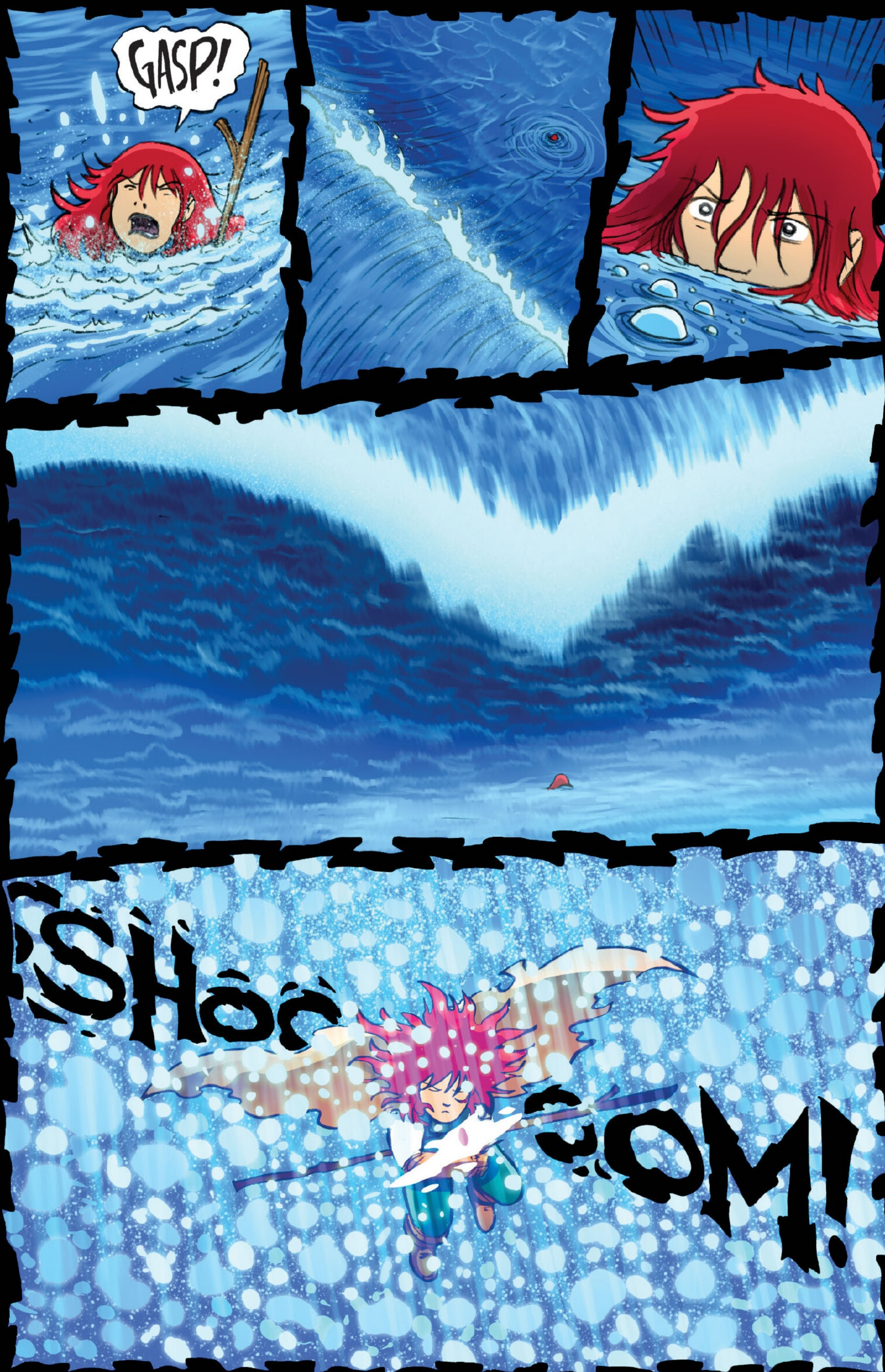


STAY
WITH US.



SPAK!!

THOOM!!





REMAIN
CALM.



FIND YOUR
WAY TO THE
SURFACE.



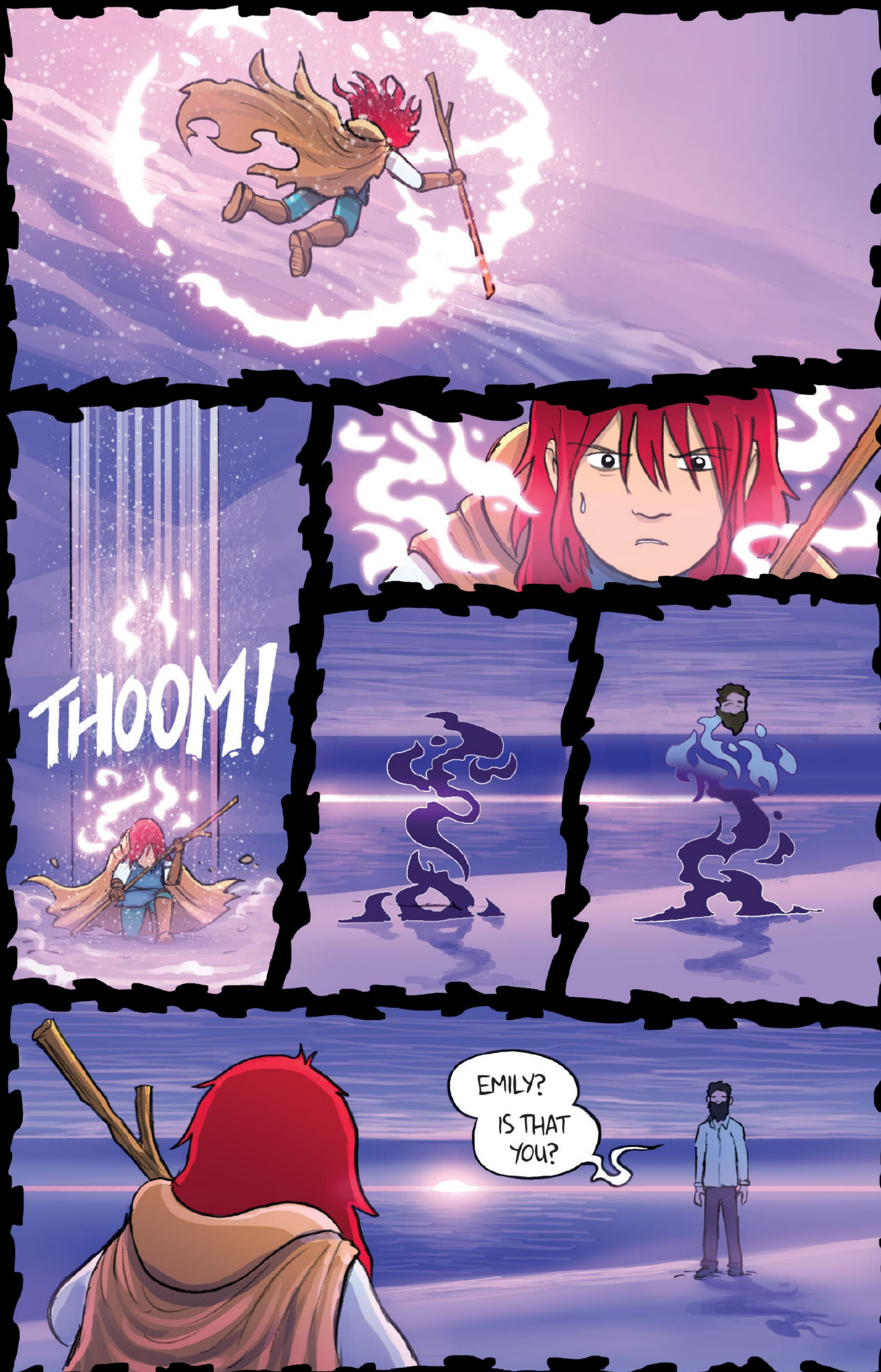
THE LIGHT
IS BELOW.
THAT MEANS
DOWN IS UP.

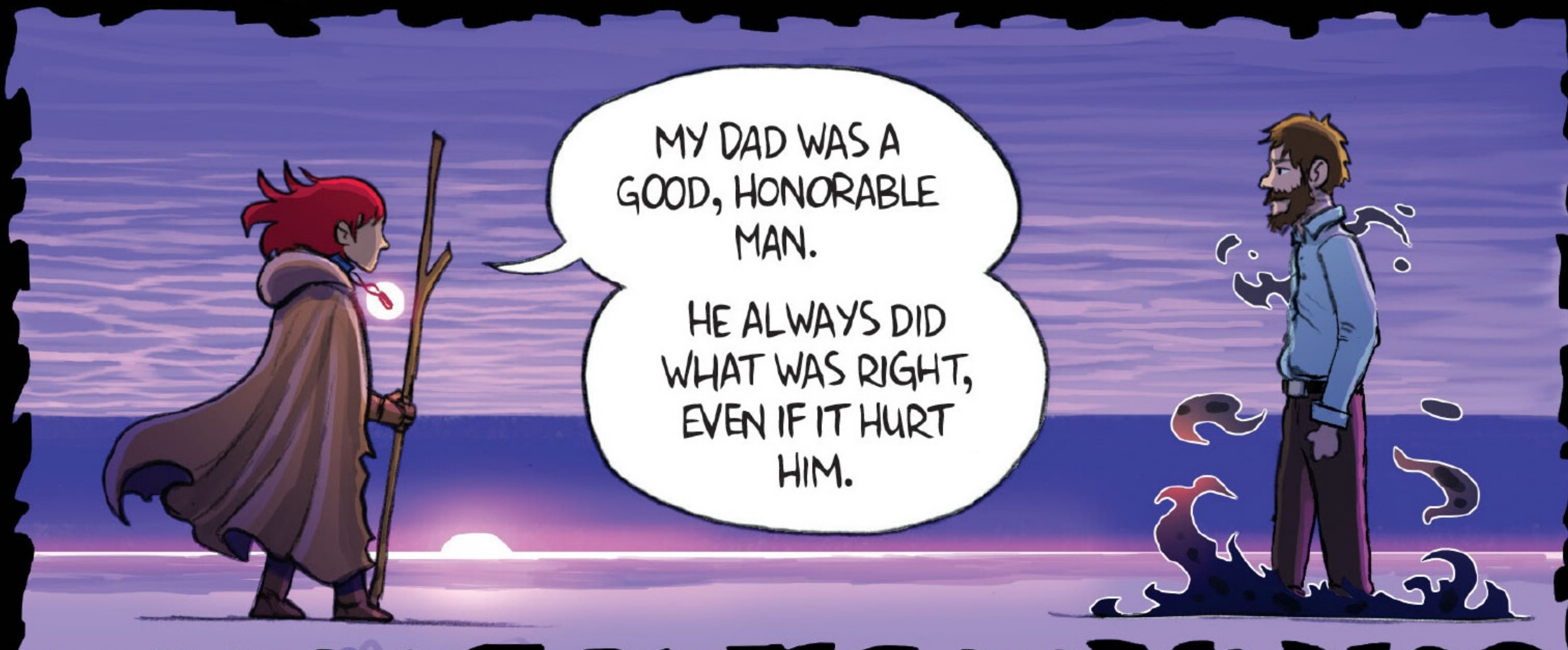
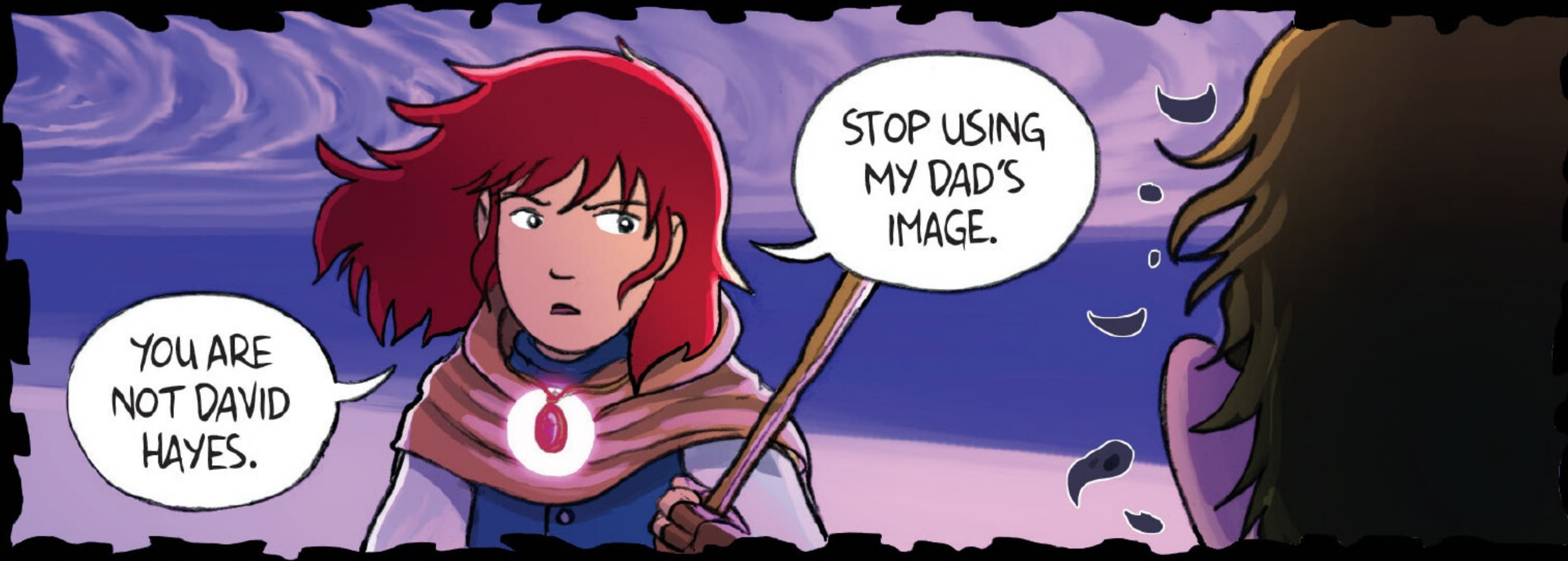


FOOSH!!



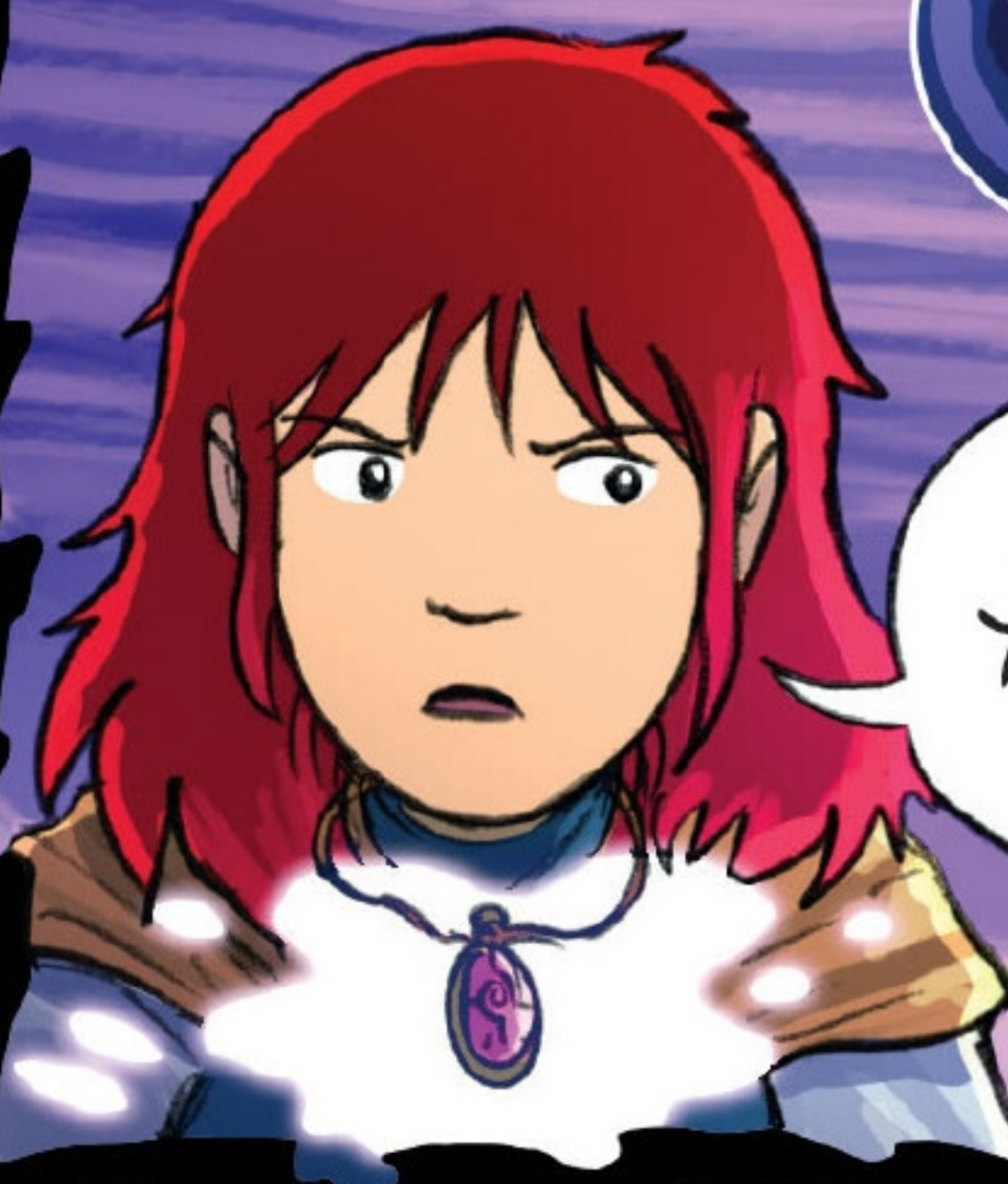
SHOOM!







IT IS THE
UNIVERSE THAT
IS MONSTROUS.



AND I SUPPOSE
YOU BELIEVE YOU
CAN FIX IT.



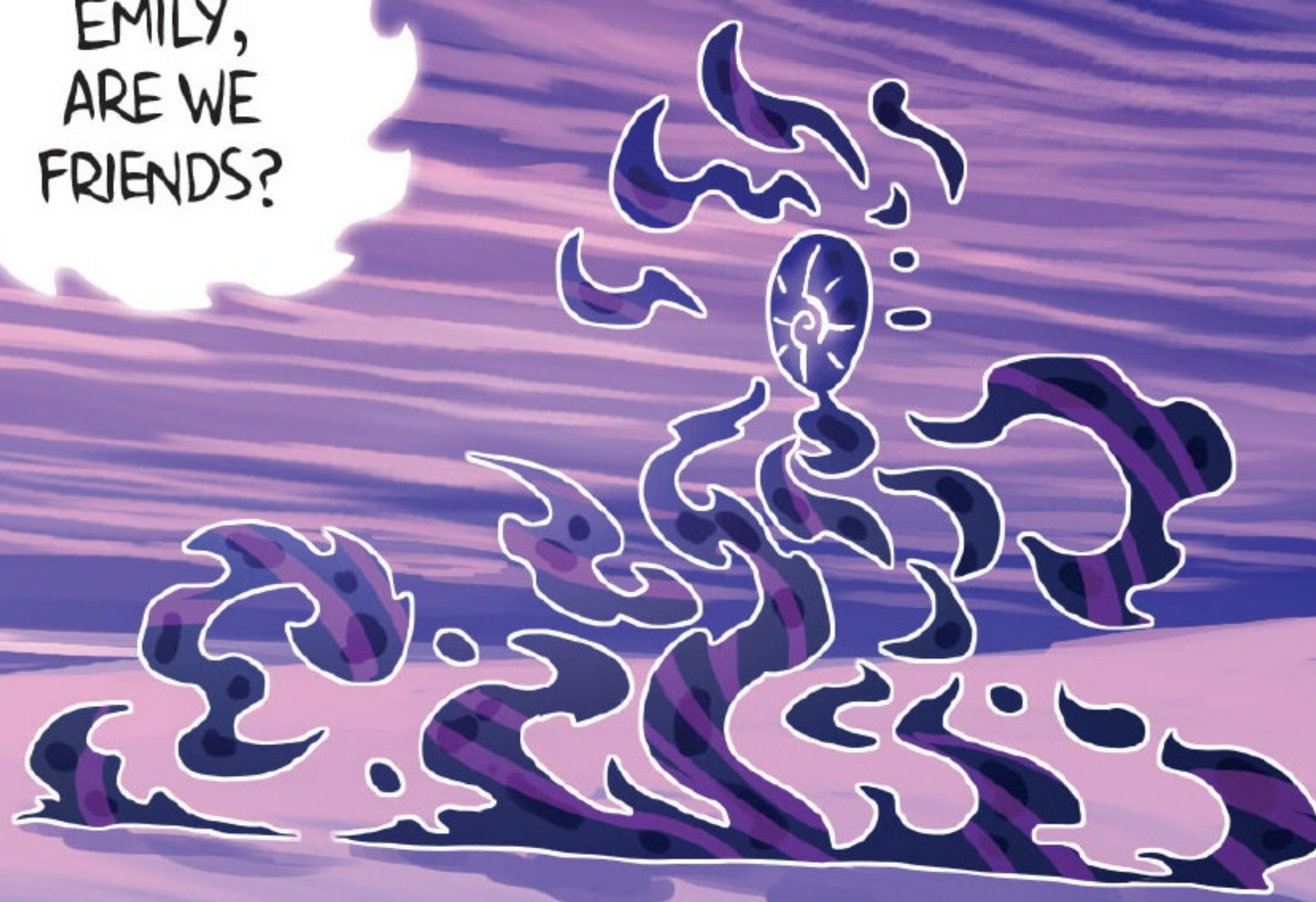
YES.



YOU ARE AN
ANCIENT, SPOILED
BRAT.

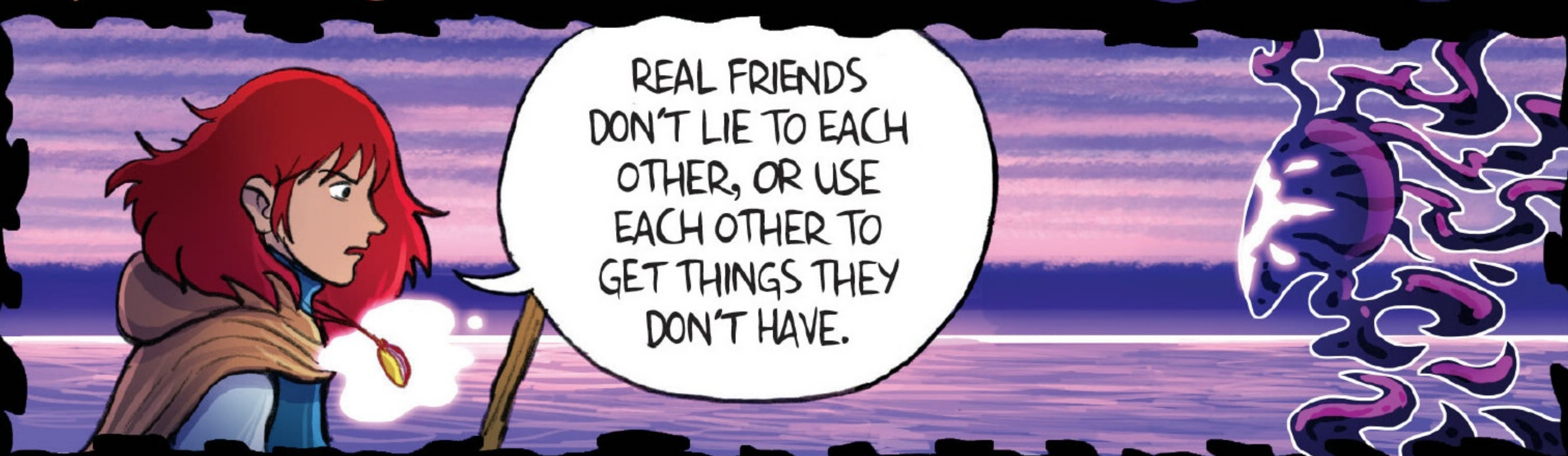


EMILY,
ARE WE
FRIENDS?

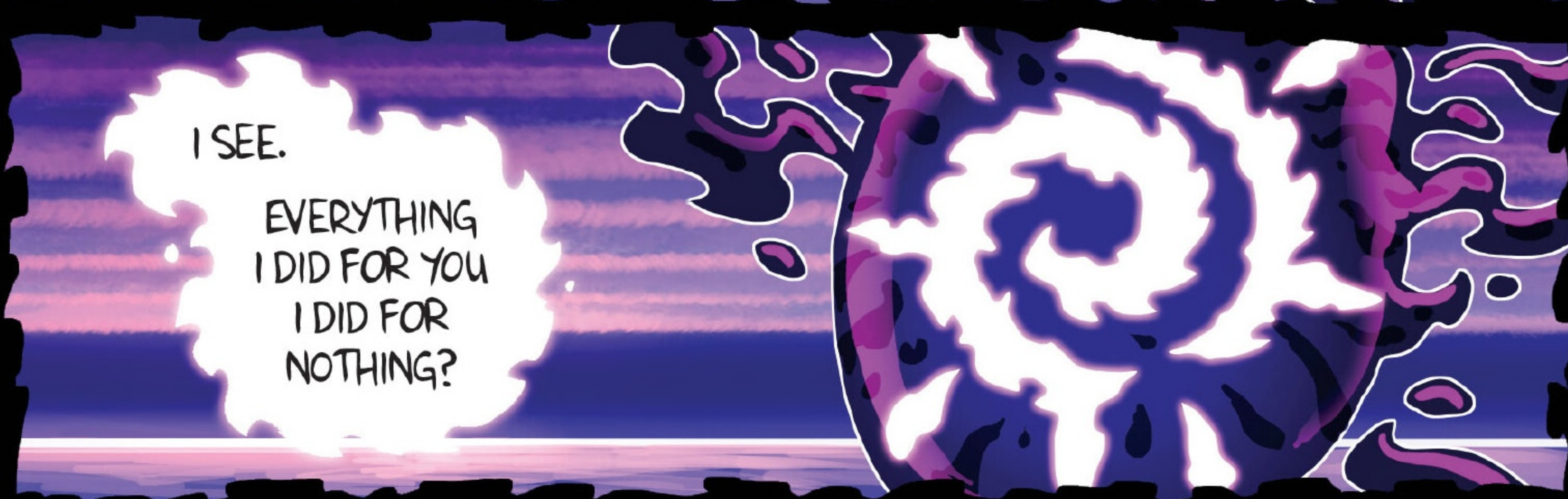




ARE WE
FRIENDS?



REAL FRIENDS
DON'T LIE TO EACH
OTHER, OR USE
EACH OTHER TO
GET THINGS THEY
DON'T HAVE.



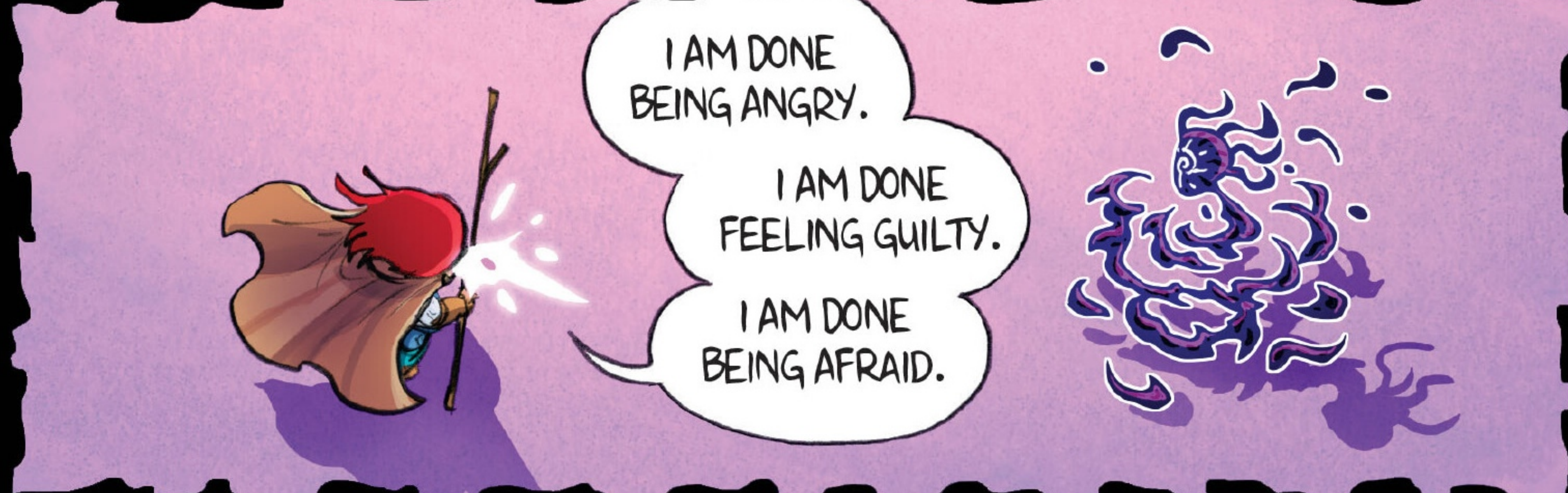
I SEE.

EVERYTHING
I DID FOR YOU
I DID FOR
NOTHING?



I KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE TRYING TO
DO, IKOL.

BUT I WON'T
FALL FOR IT
ANYMORE.



I AM DONE
BEING ANGRY.

I AM DONE
FEELING GUILTY.

I AM DONE
BEING AFRAID.



I HAVE DECIDED
INSTEAD THAT I
MUST FORGIVE
YOU.

IKOL,
I FORGIVE
YOU.

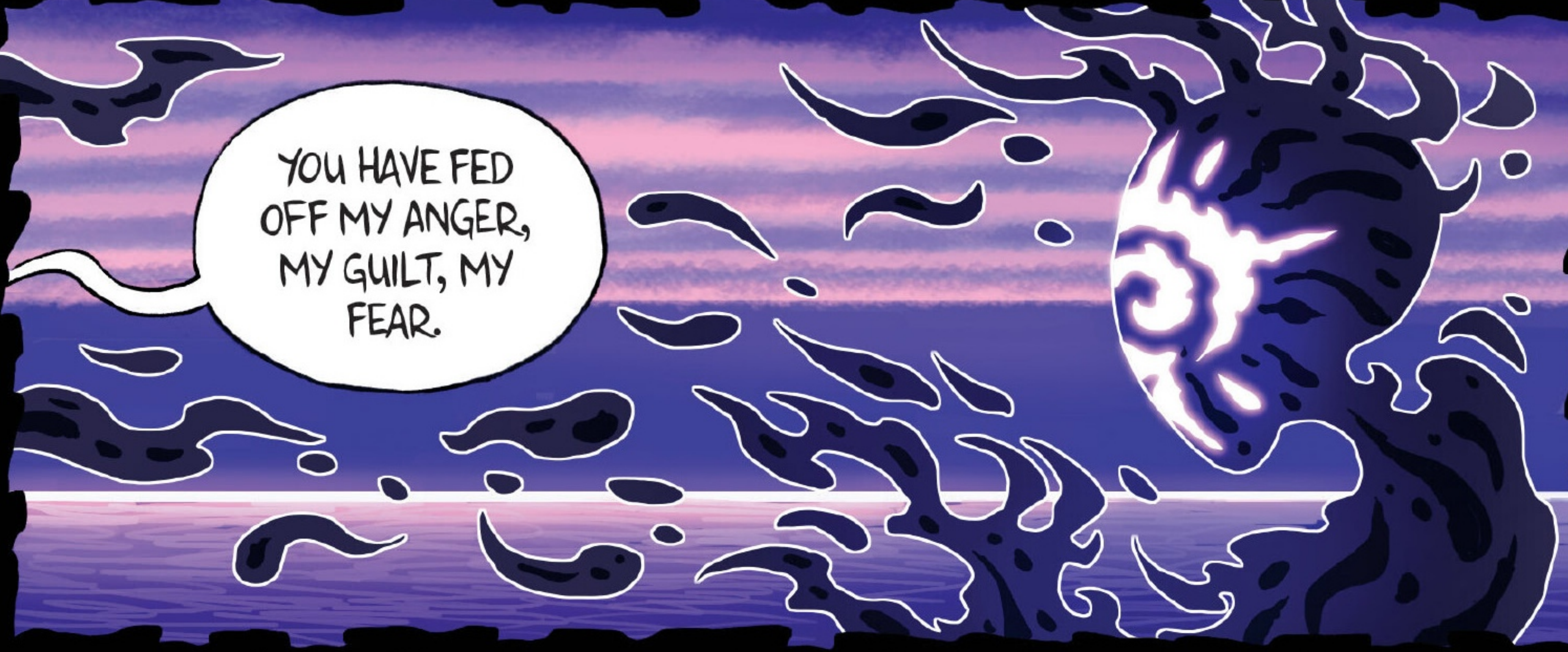


FORGIVE
ME?

BUT
WHY?



BECAUSE I
NEED TO FORGIVE
MYSELF.



YOU HAVE FED
OFF MY ANGER,
MY GUILT, MY
FEAR.



YOU ARE THE
RESULT OF ALL
THESE THINGS.

AND I AM
GOING TO TAKE
THEM BACK NOW.

THE TIME FOR
GAMES IS OVER,
IKOL.

IT IS TIME
FOR YOU TO
SLEEP.

BUT I WANT TO
KEEP PLAYING,
EMILY.

I DO NOT
WANT TO
SLEEP.



YOU'VE DONE
ENOUGH.

BUT YOU SAY
I'VE CREATED
A MESS.

I WANT TO
HELP YOU
CLEAN IT UP.

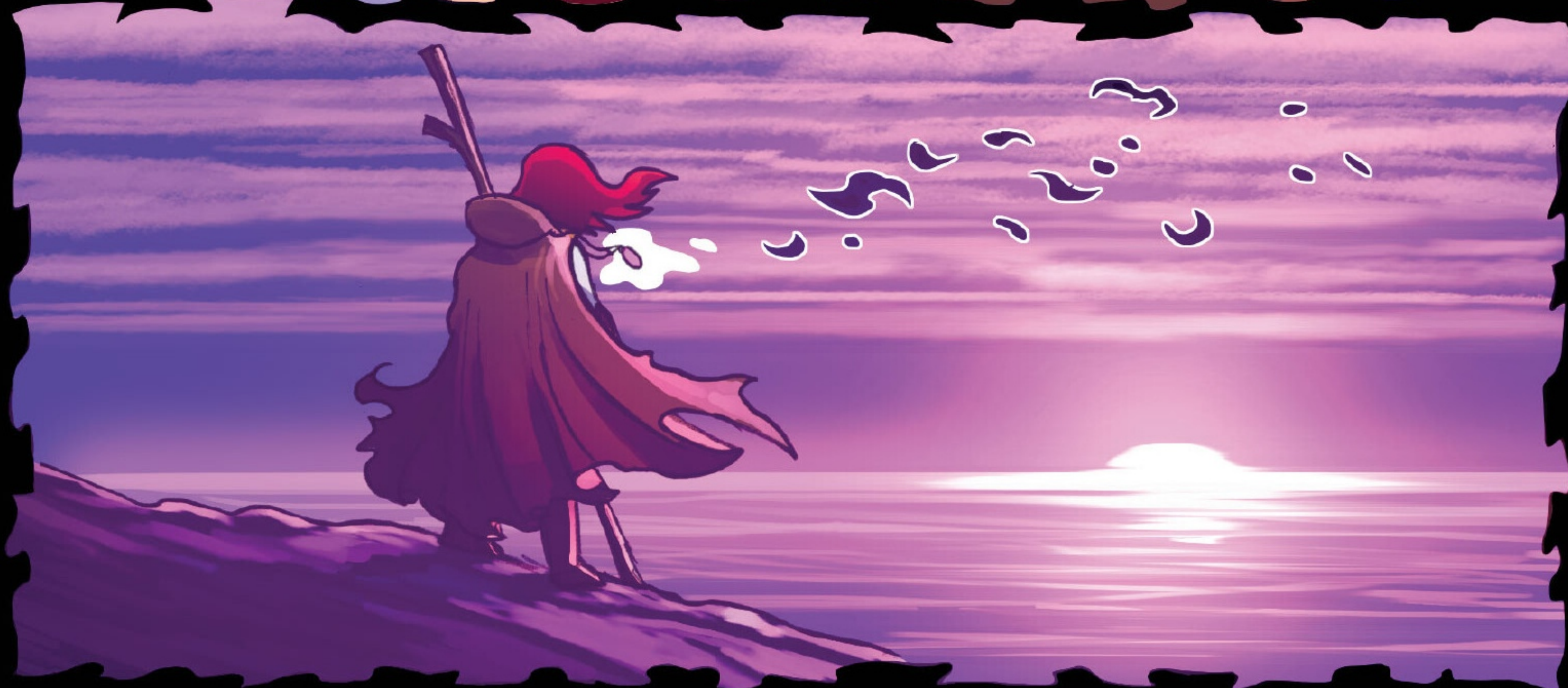
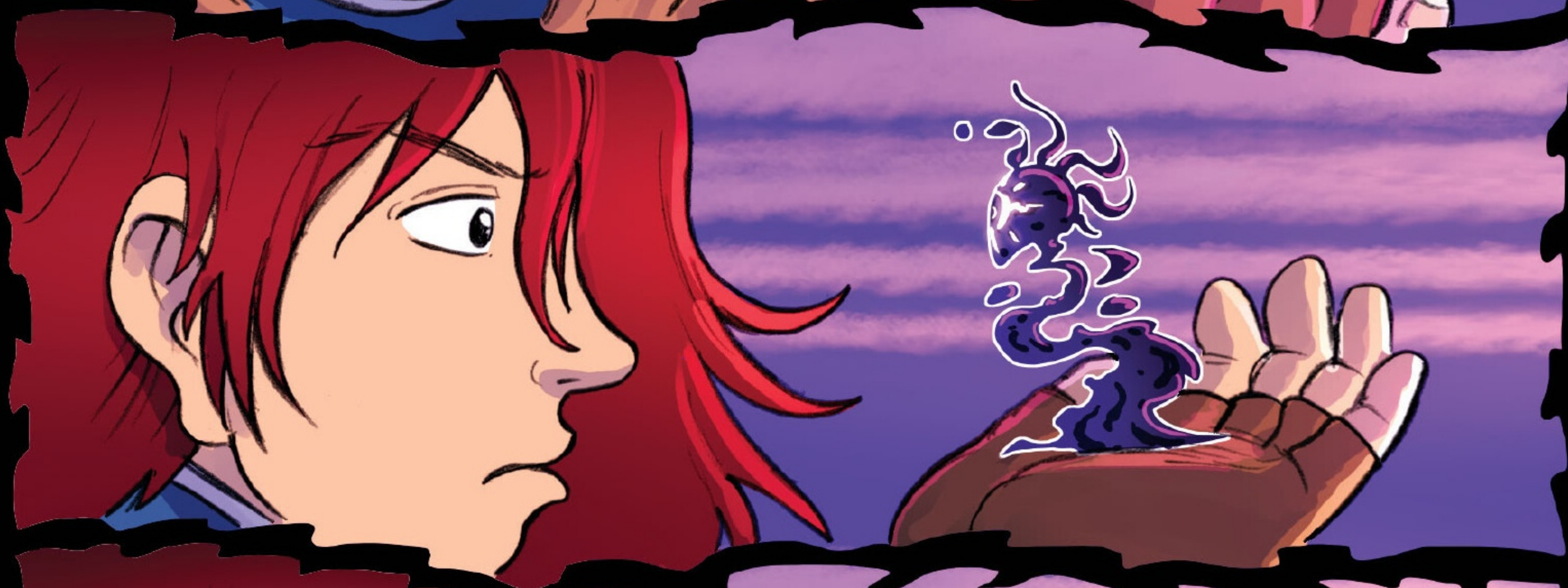
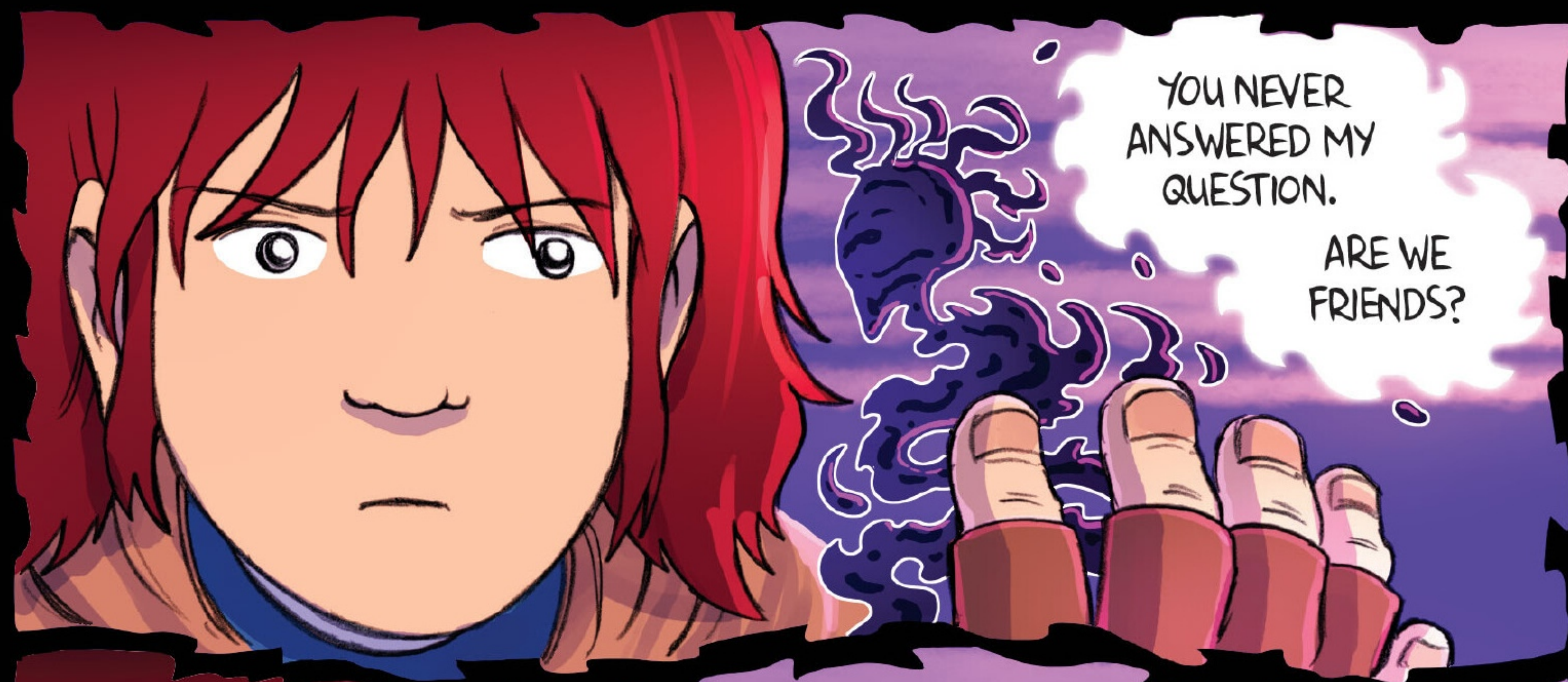
I WANT
TO BE
NEEDED.

THE BEST
WAY TO HELP
IS FOR YOU TO
GO AWAY
NOW.

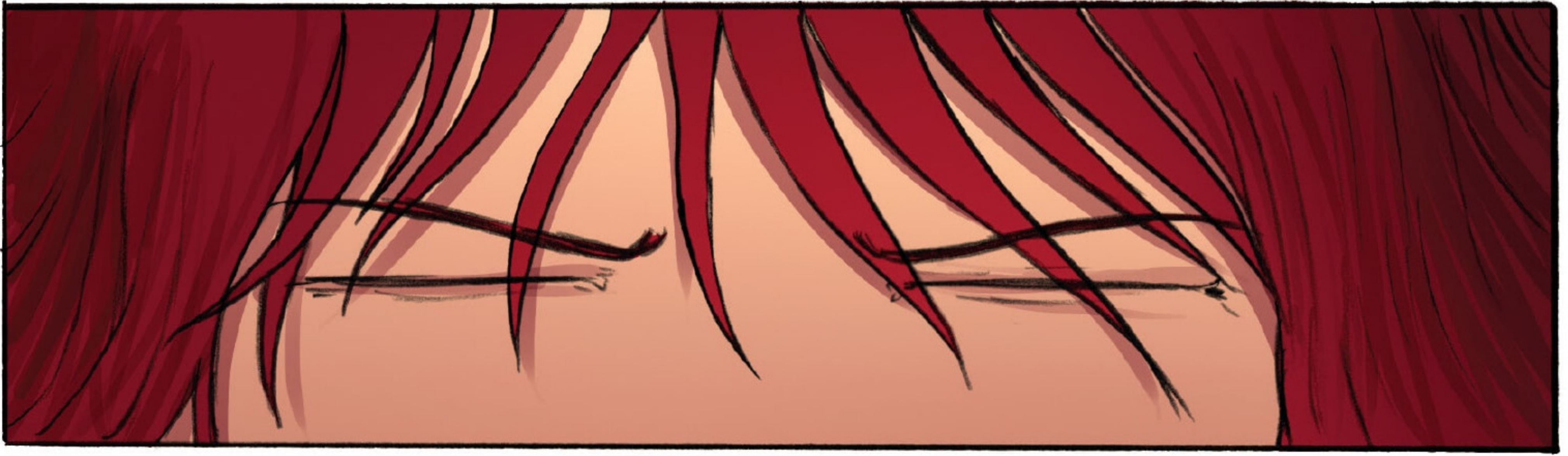
BUT I CAN
DO SO MUCH.

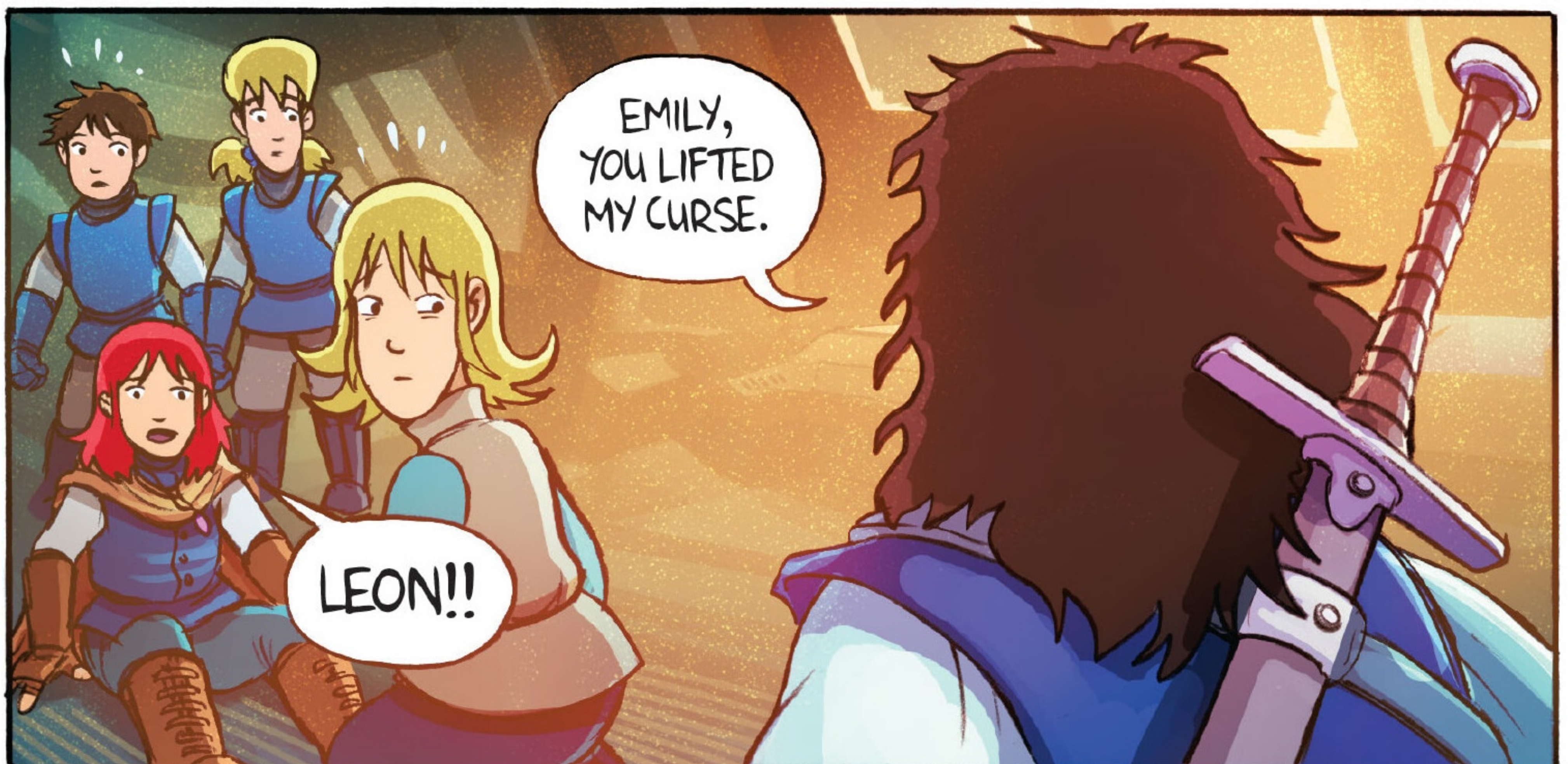
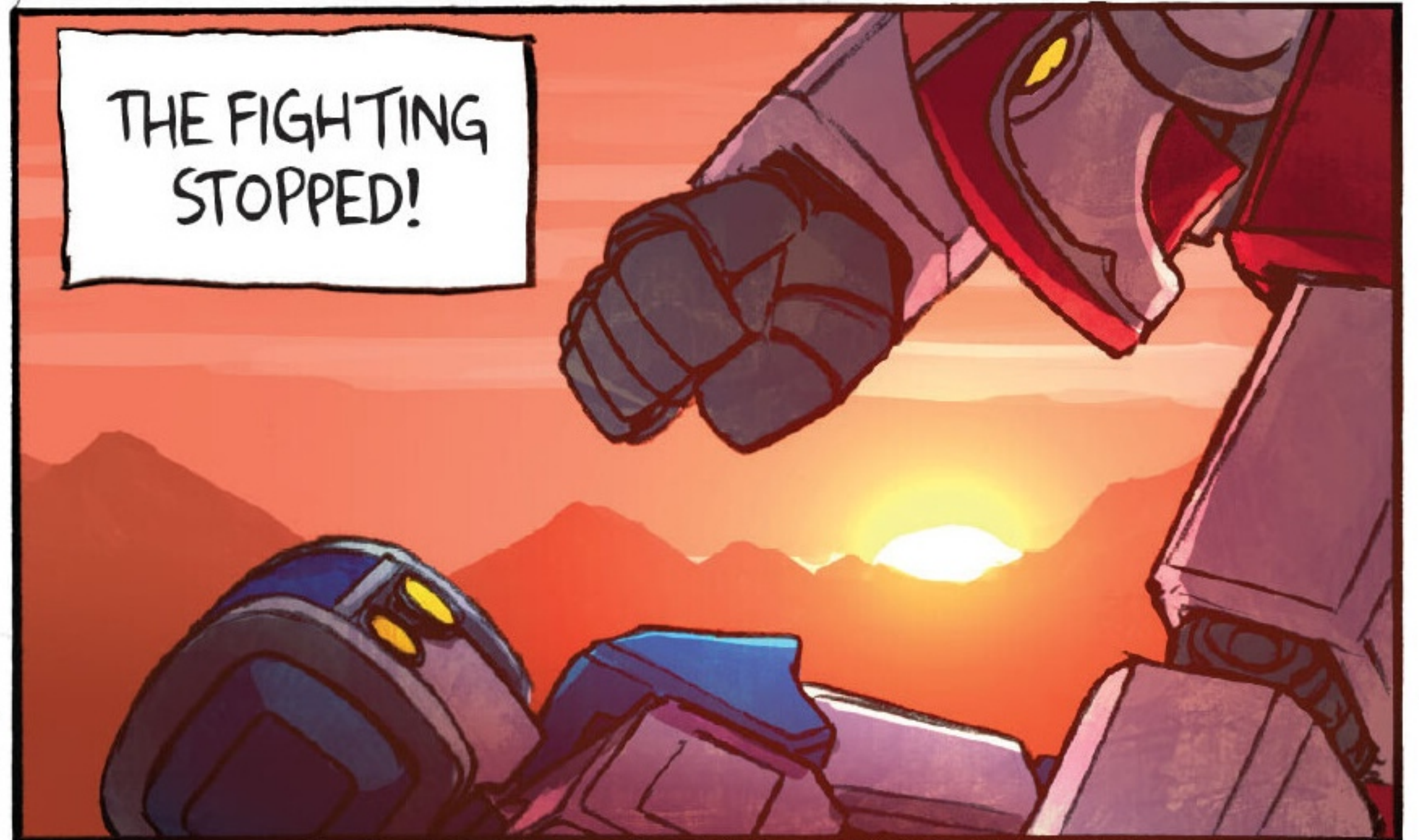
I KNOW YOU
CAN, BUT IT IS
TIME FOR YOU
TO SLEEP.

BUT, EMILY,
I DON'T WANT
TO SLEEP.





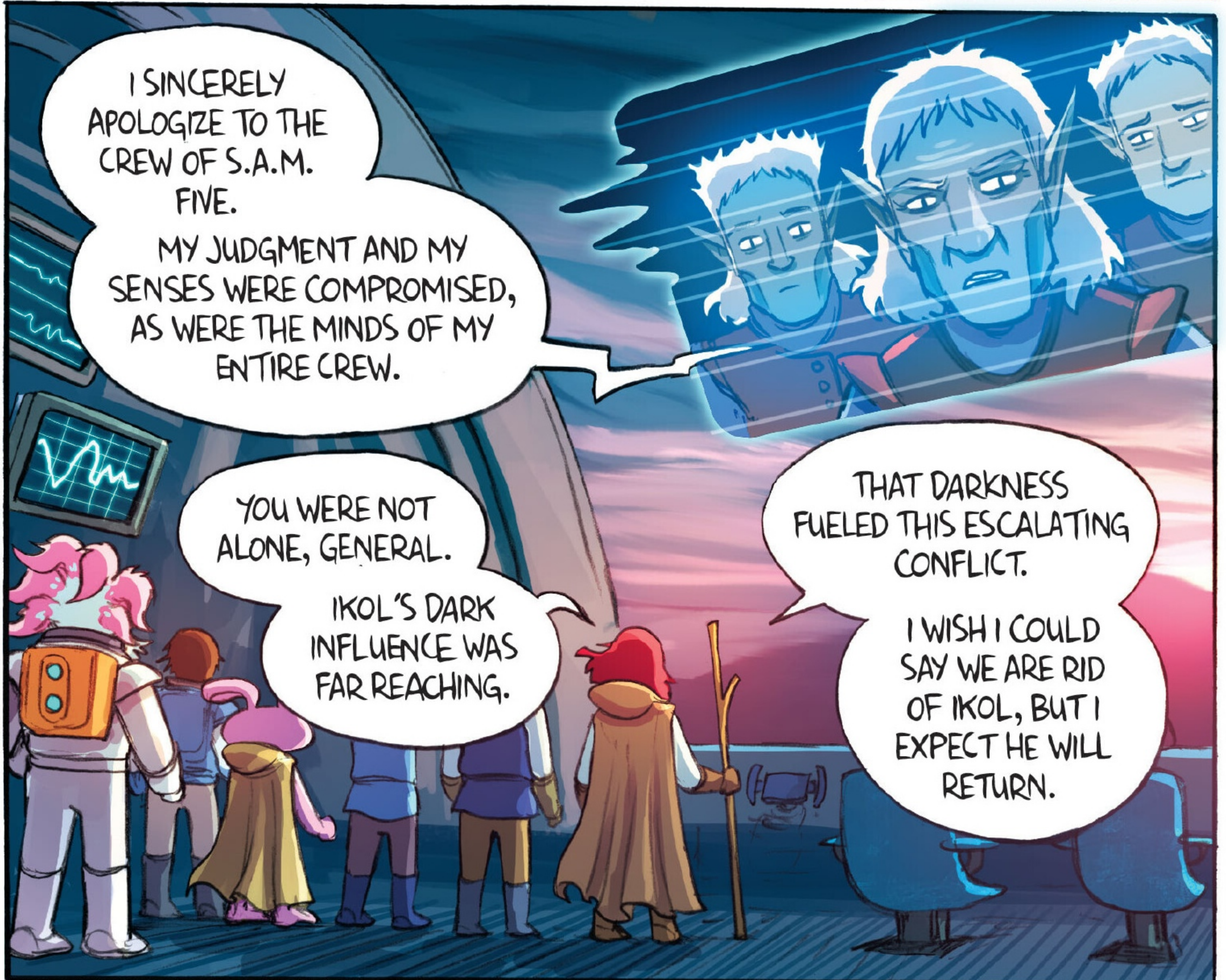
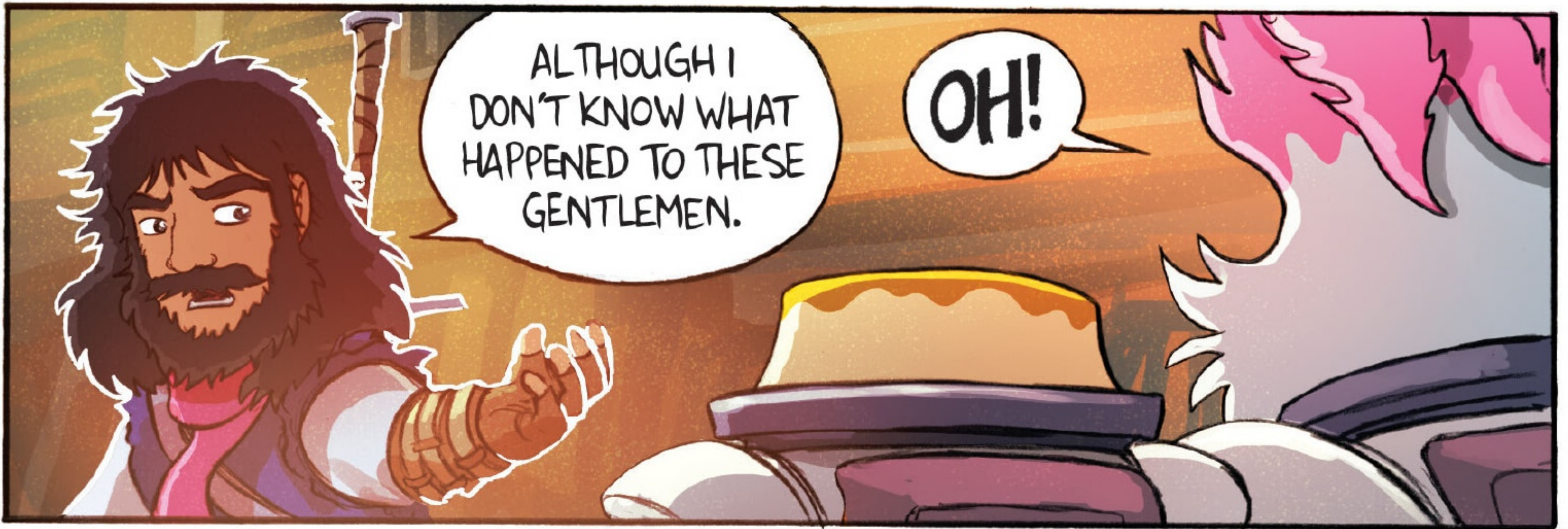


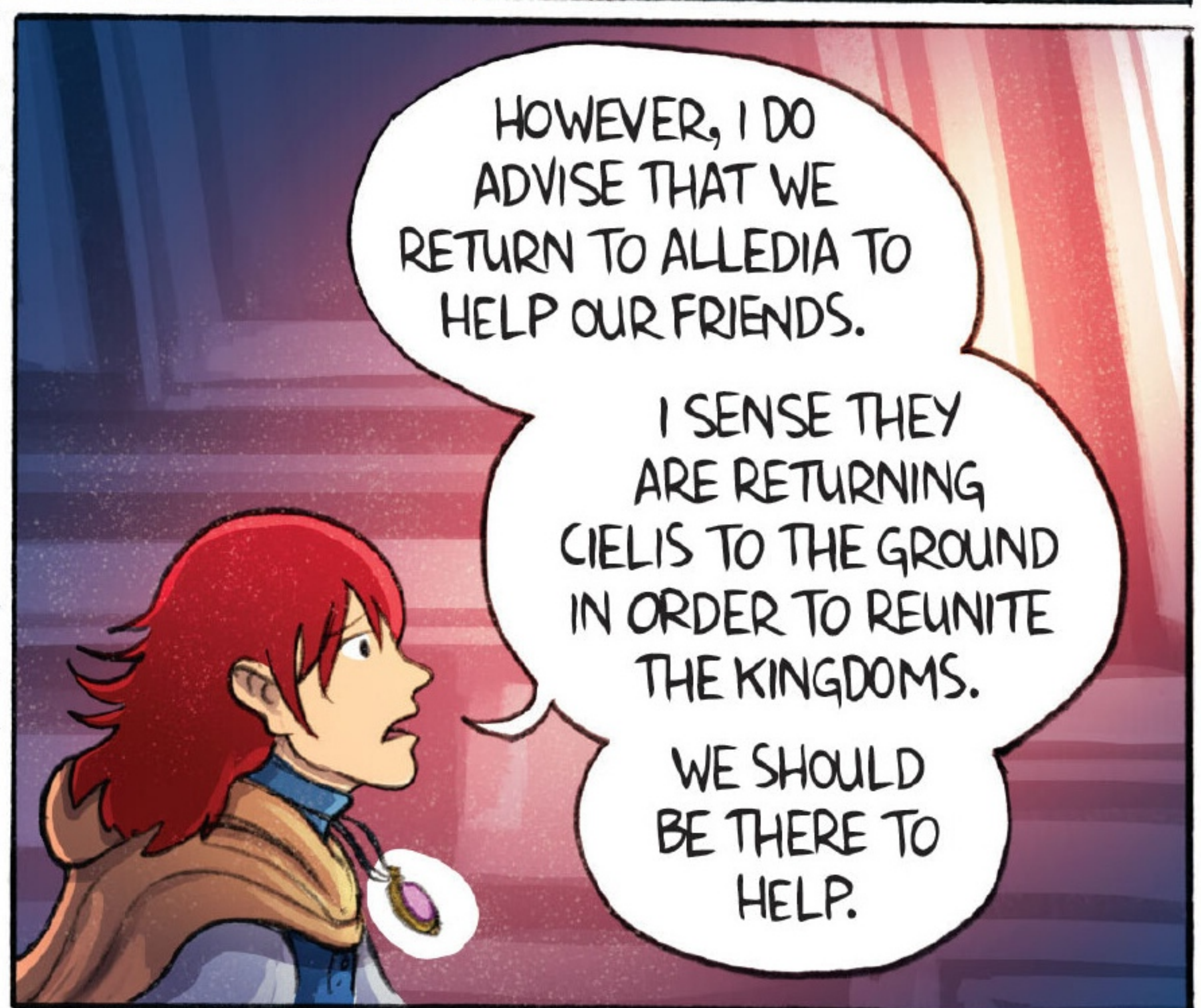




THIS MUST BE
HAPPENING IN
ALLEDIA, TOO.

THE CURSED ARE
RETURNING TO THEIR
ORIGINAL SELVES.









DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW DANGEROUS THIS WILL BE?



YES.



OKAY, THEN.

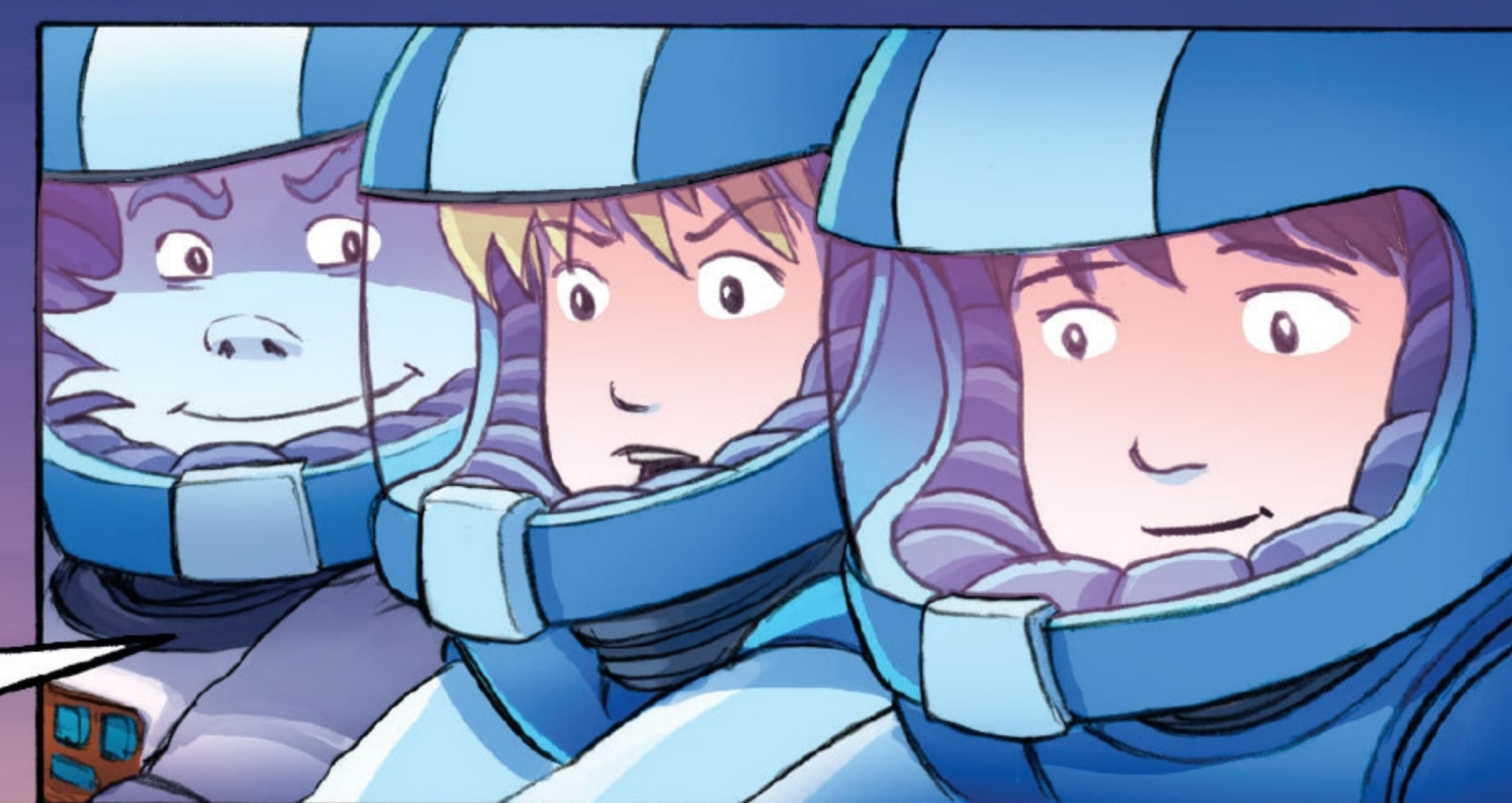
COUNT US IN.

WE ARE GOING TO USE THE POWER OF THE STONES TO INITIATE A HYPERJUMP.

STOCK ENOUGH FUEL TO MANEUVER TO A SAFE LANDING SPOT ON THE OTHER SIDE.

CREW OF S.A.M. FIVE READY FOR HYPERJUMP AND EMERGENCY LANDING PROCEDURE.

I WOULD LIKE TO ADD THAT I AM SUPER PUMPED ABOUT THIS.

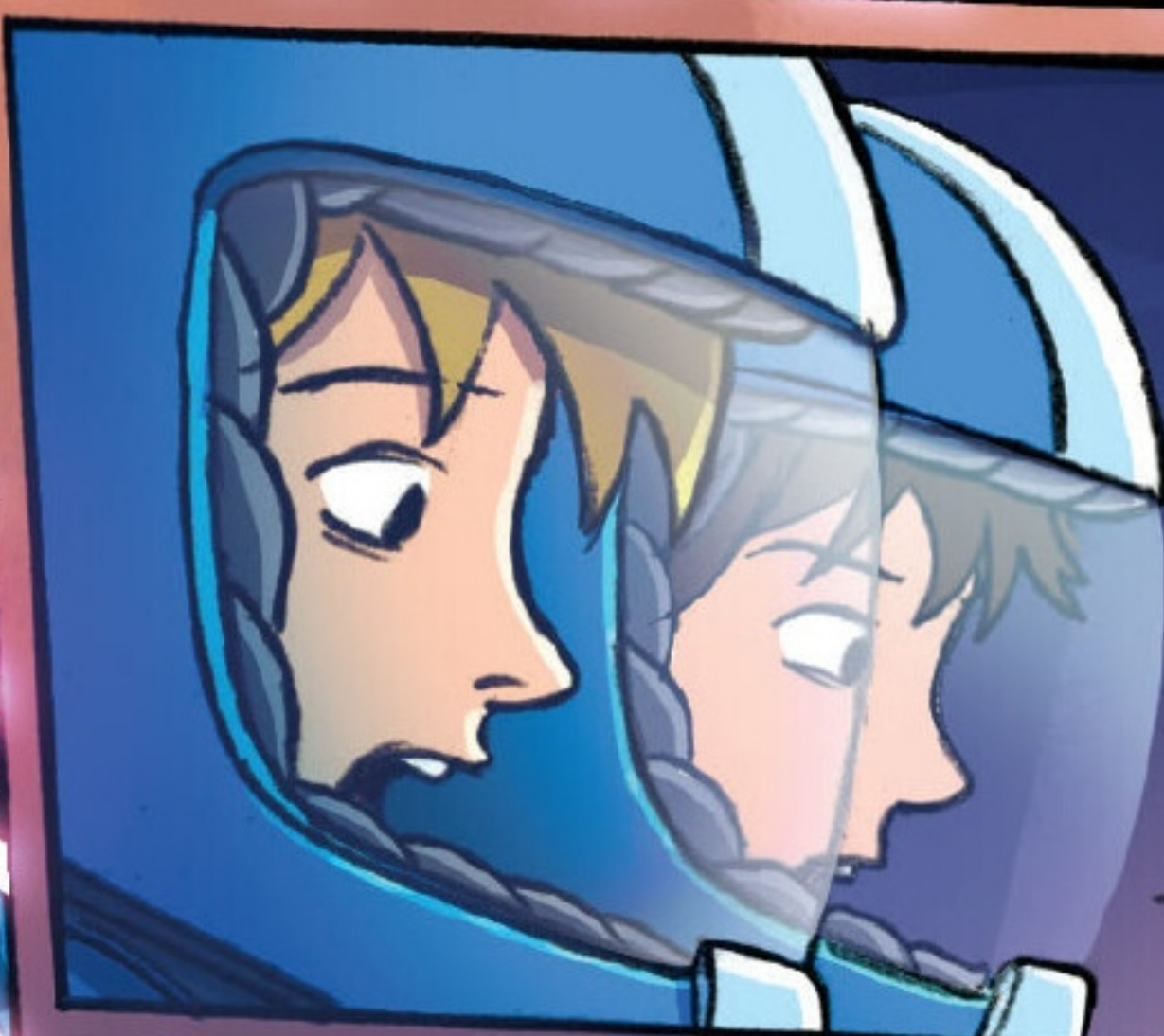
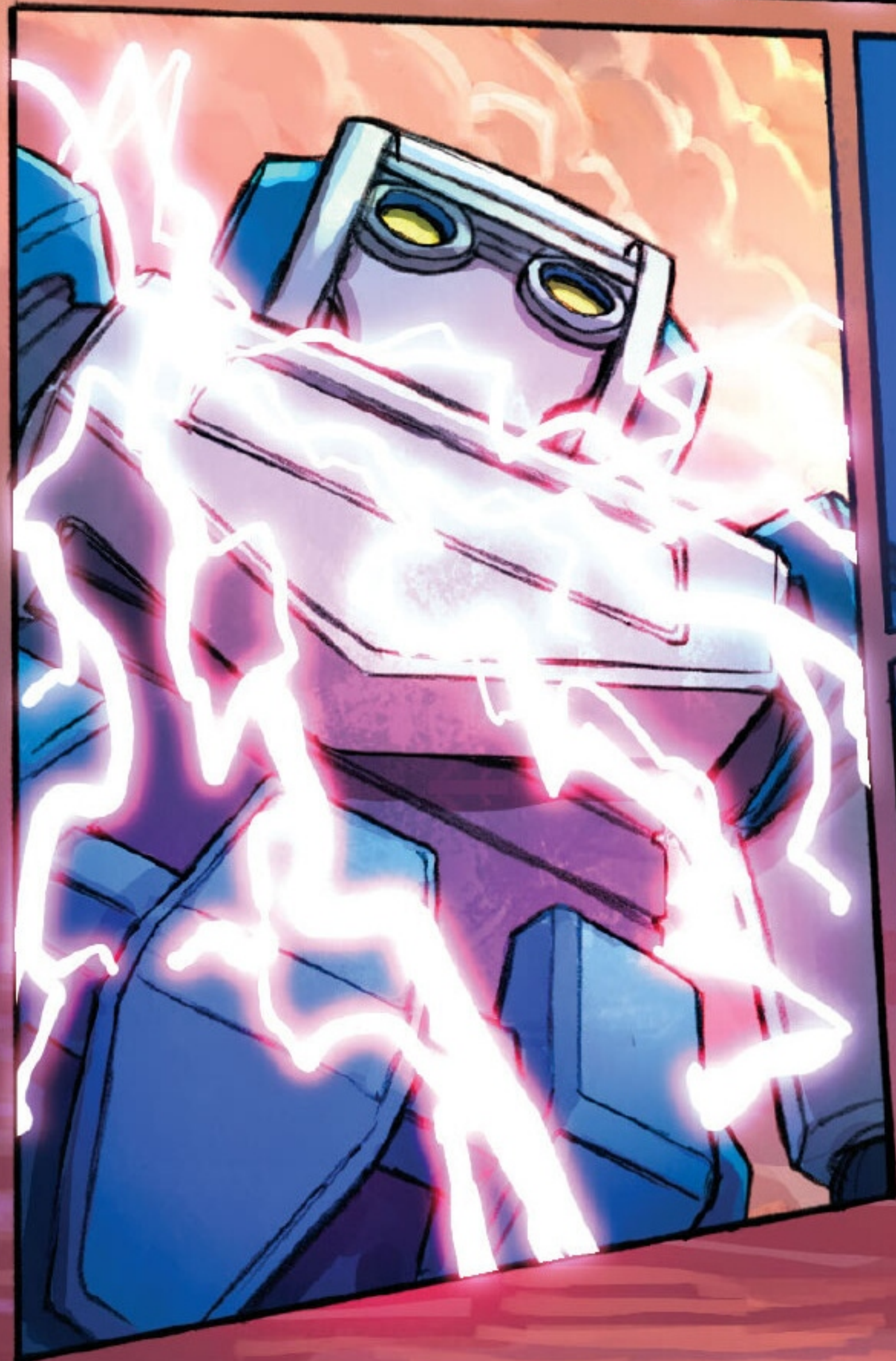
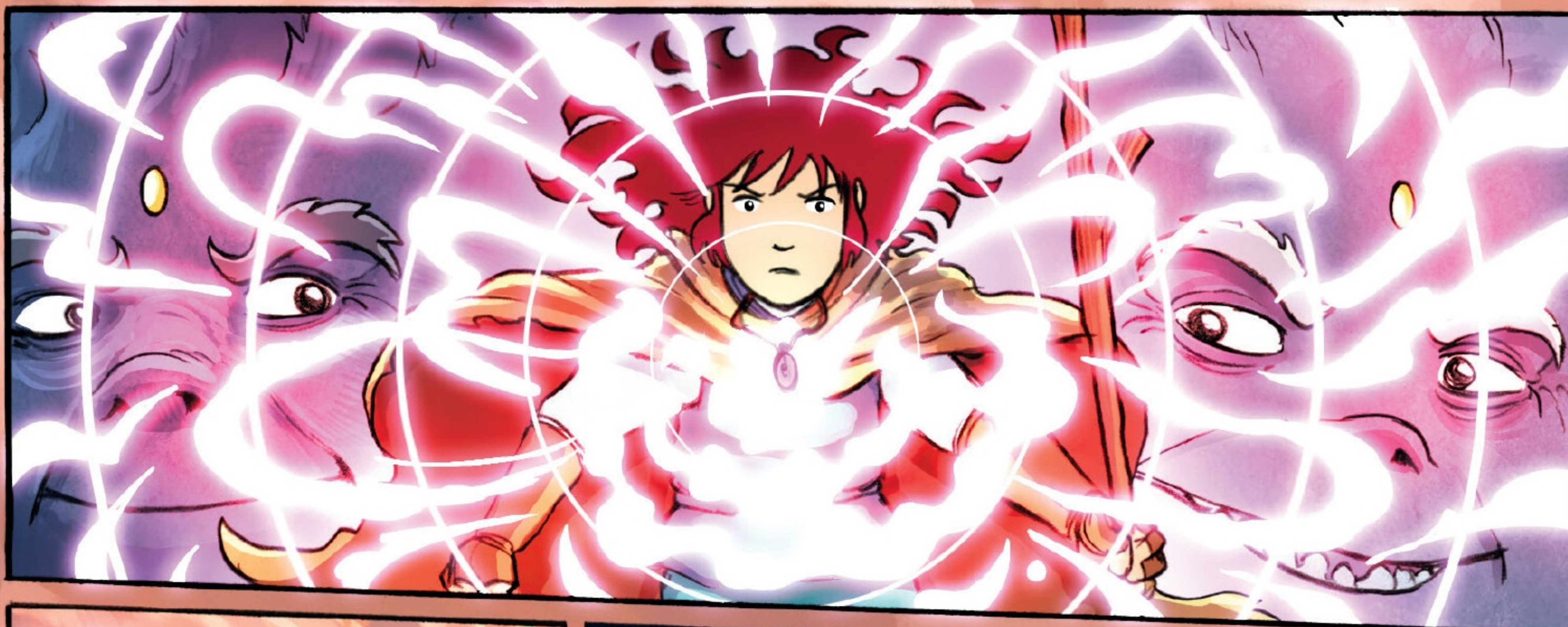


RESISTANCE ASSAULT MECH DIVISION IS READY AND AWAITS ORDERS, SIR.

LEAD US BACK TO ALLEDIA, STONEKEEPER.

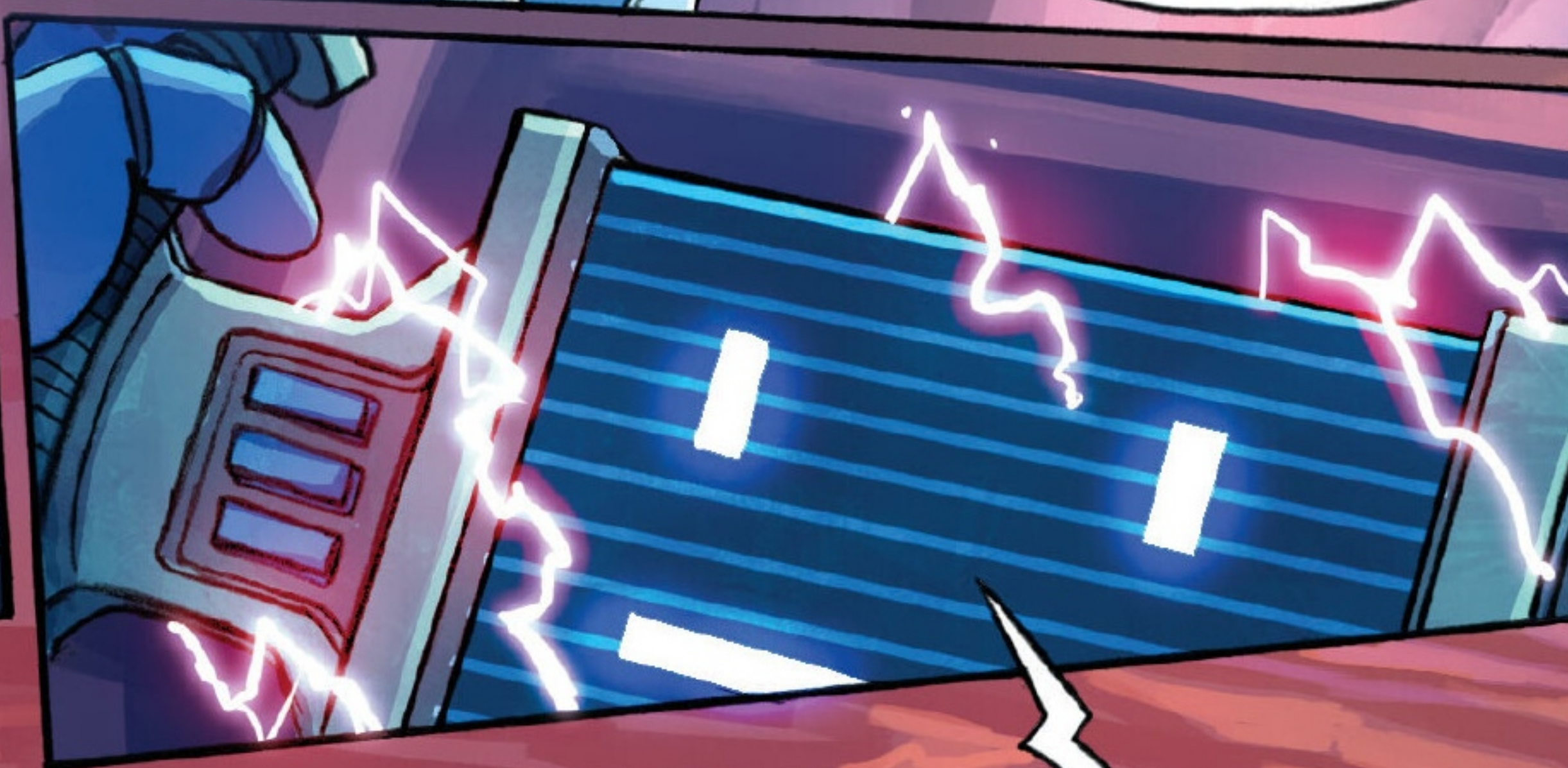


READY WHEN YOU ARE, EMILY.



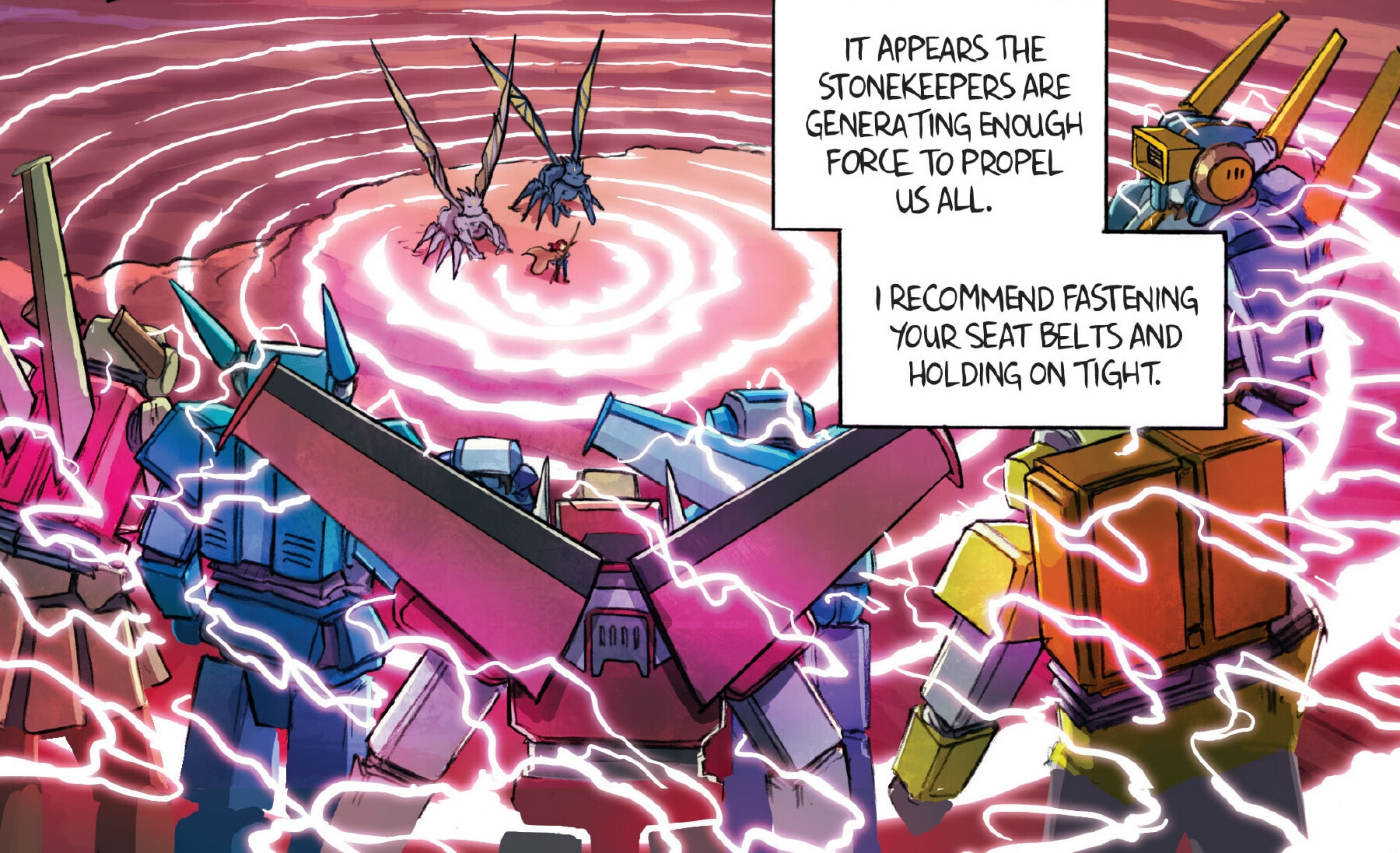
AUXILIARY
POWER INCREASING
PAST CAPACITY!

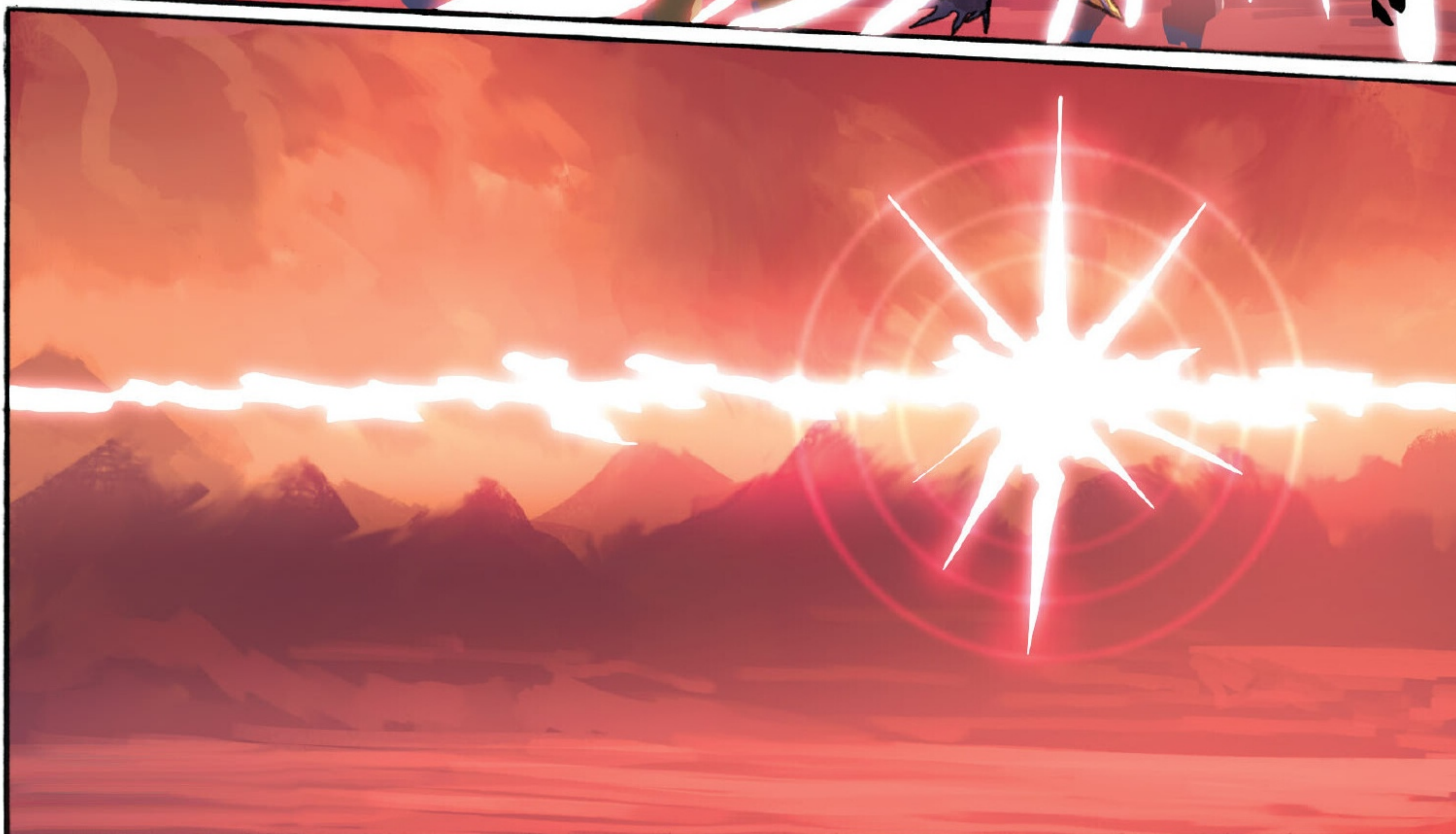
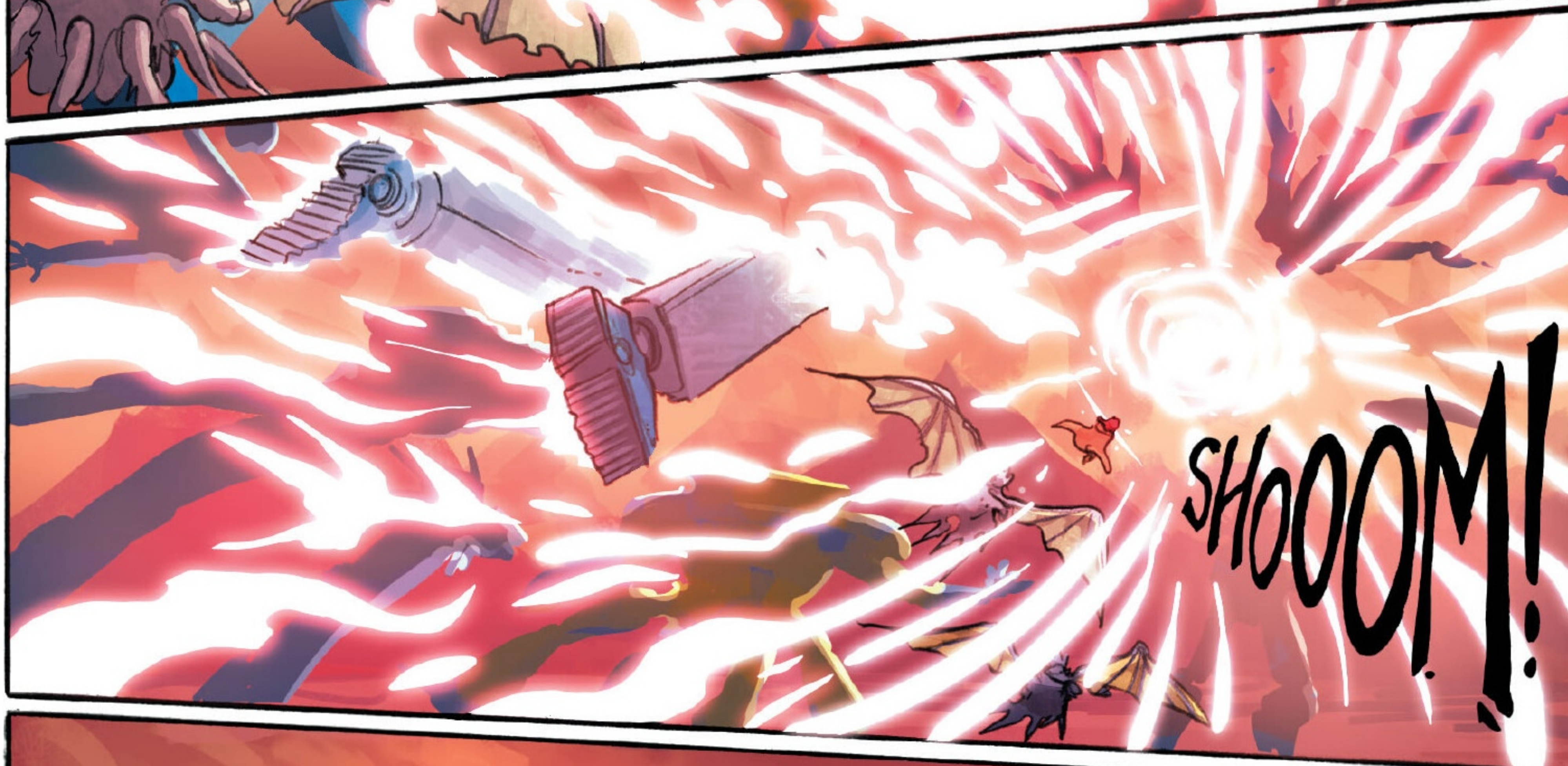
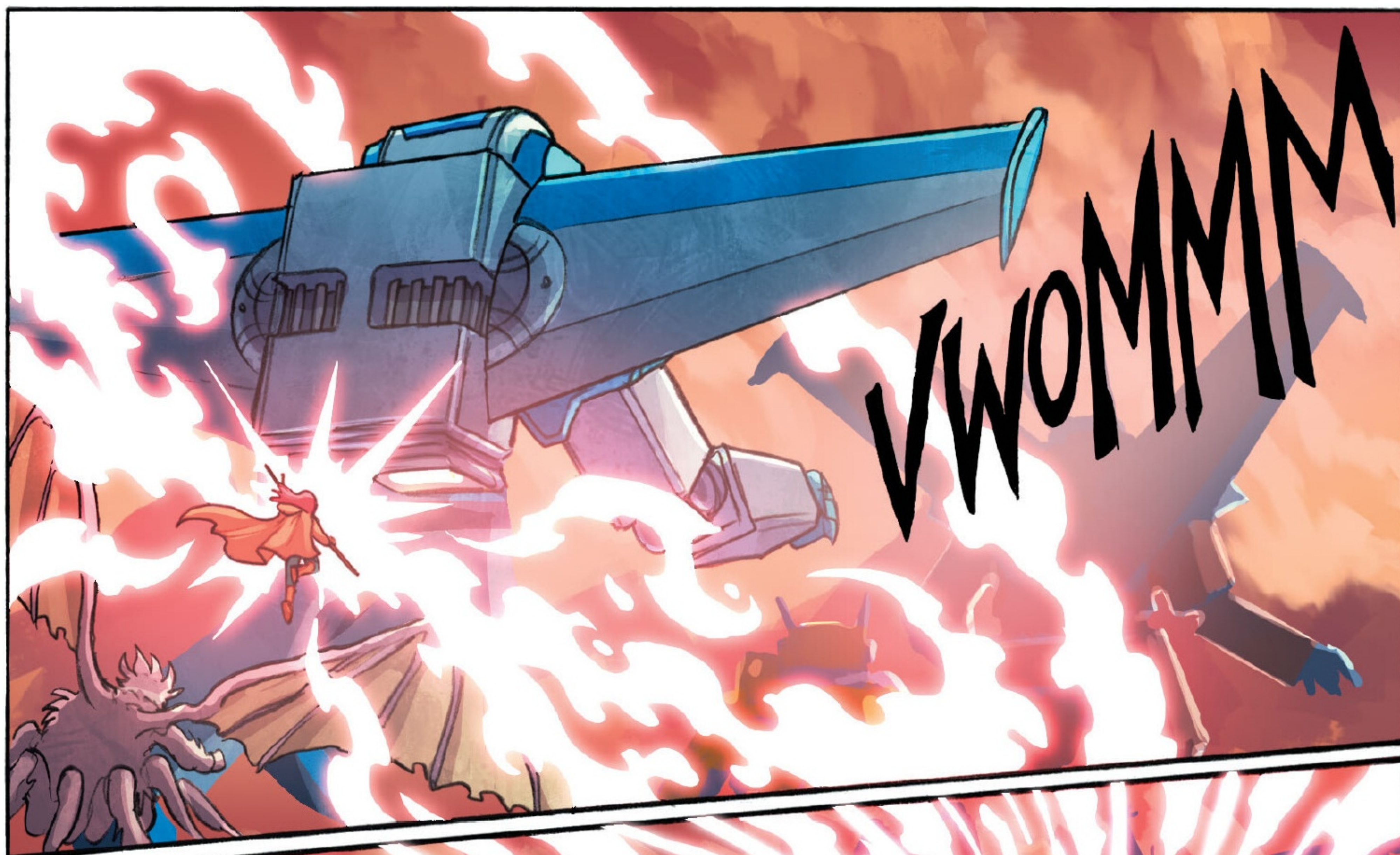
AND I THINK IT'S
ONLY READING THE
STONE POWER!



IT APPEARS THE
STONEKEEPERS ARE
GENERATING ENOUGH
FORCE TO PROPEL
US ALL.

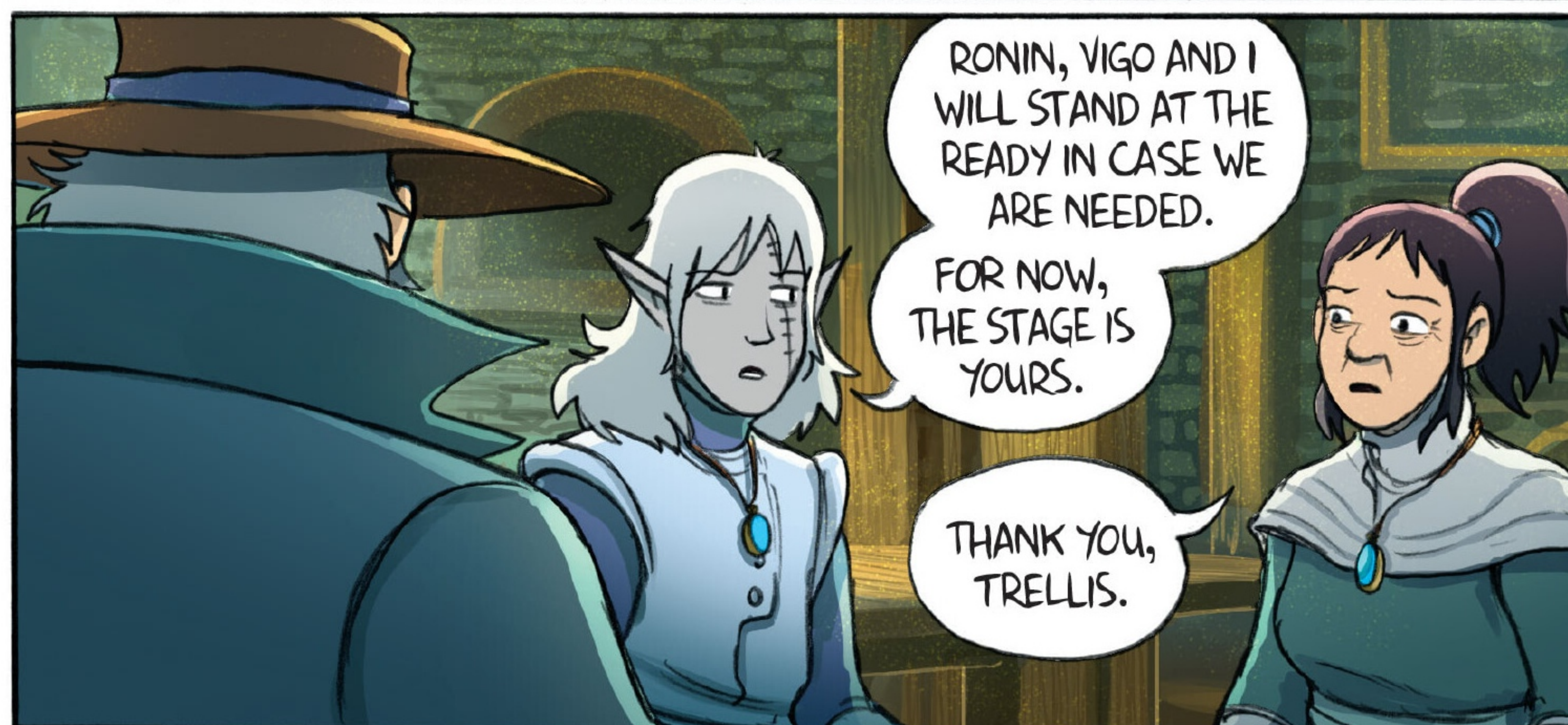
I RECOMMEND FASTENING
YOUR SEAT BELTS AND
HOLDING ON TIGHT.













WE BEGIN WITH
A MEDITATION TO
PAY OUR RESPECTS TO
THE STONEKEEPERS
WHO CAME BEFORE
US.

WITHOUT THEIR
SACRIFICES WE WOULD
NOT BE STANDING HERE
IN THIS MOMENT.



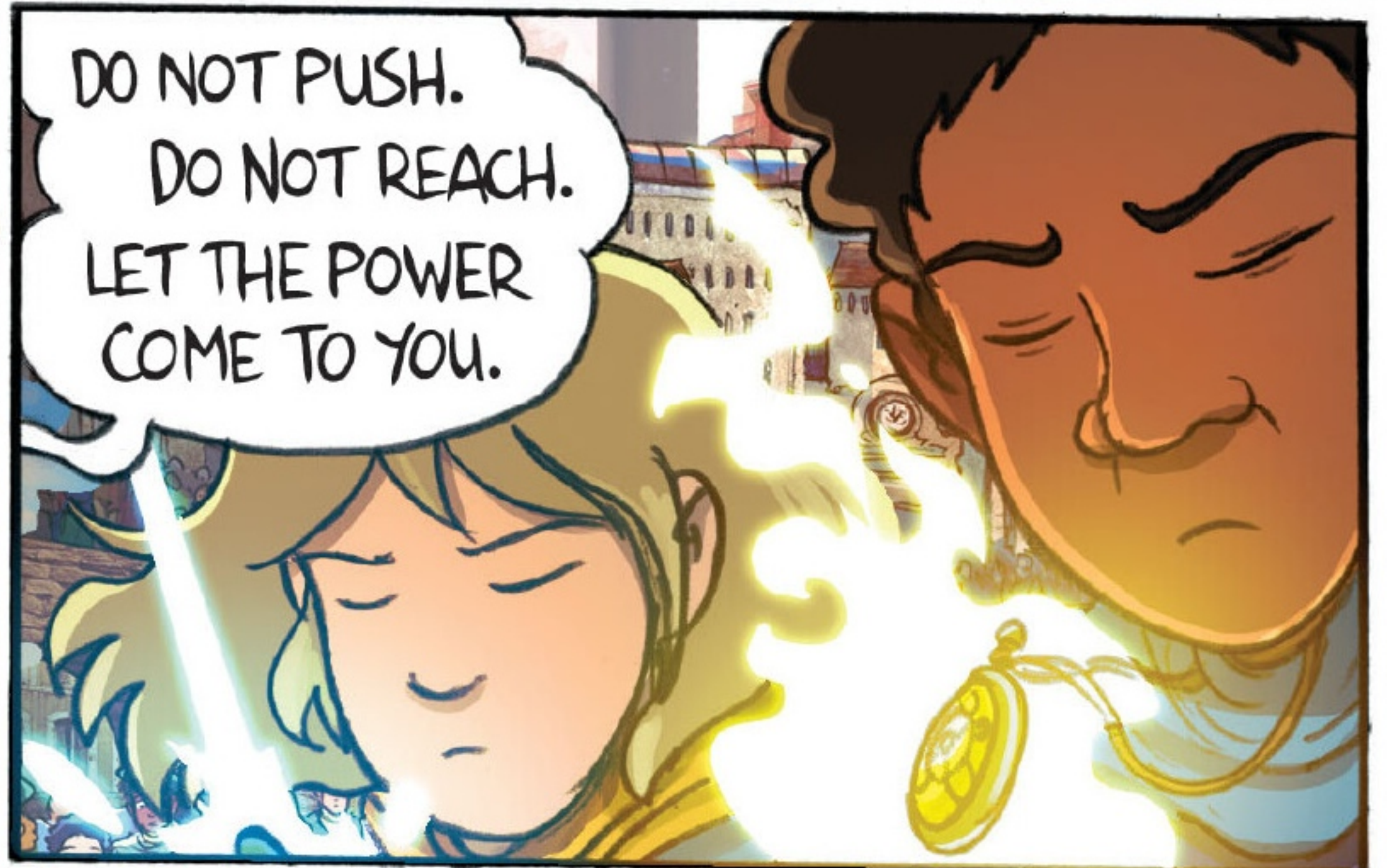
WITHOUT THEIR
KNOWLEDGE, WE
WOULD NOT KNOW
OUR PATH.

CLOSE YOUR
EYES AND BEGIN
TO FOCUS.



RELEASE
ANGER.
RELEASE
PAIN.

FIND YOUR
CENTER.



DO NOT PUSH.
DO NOT REACH.
LET THE POWER
COME TO YOU.



CATCH YOUR
POWER LIKE A
WIND IN YOUR
SAIL.



NGH.

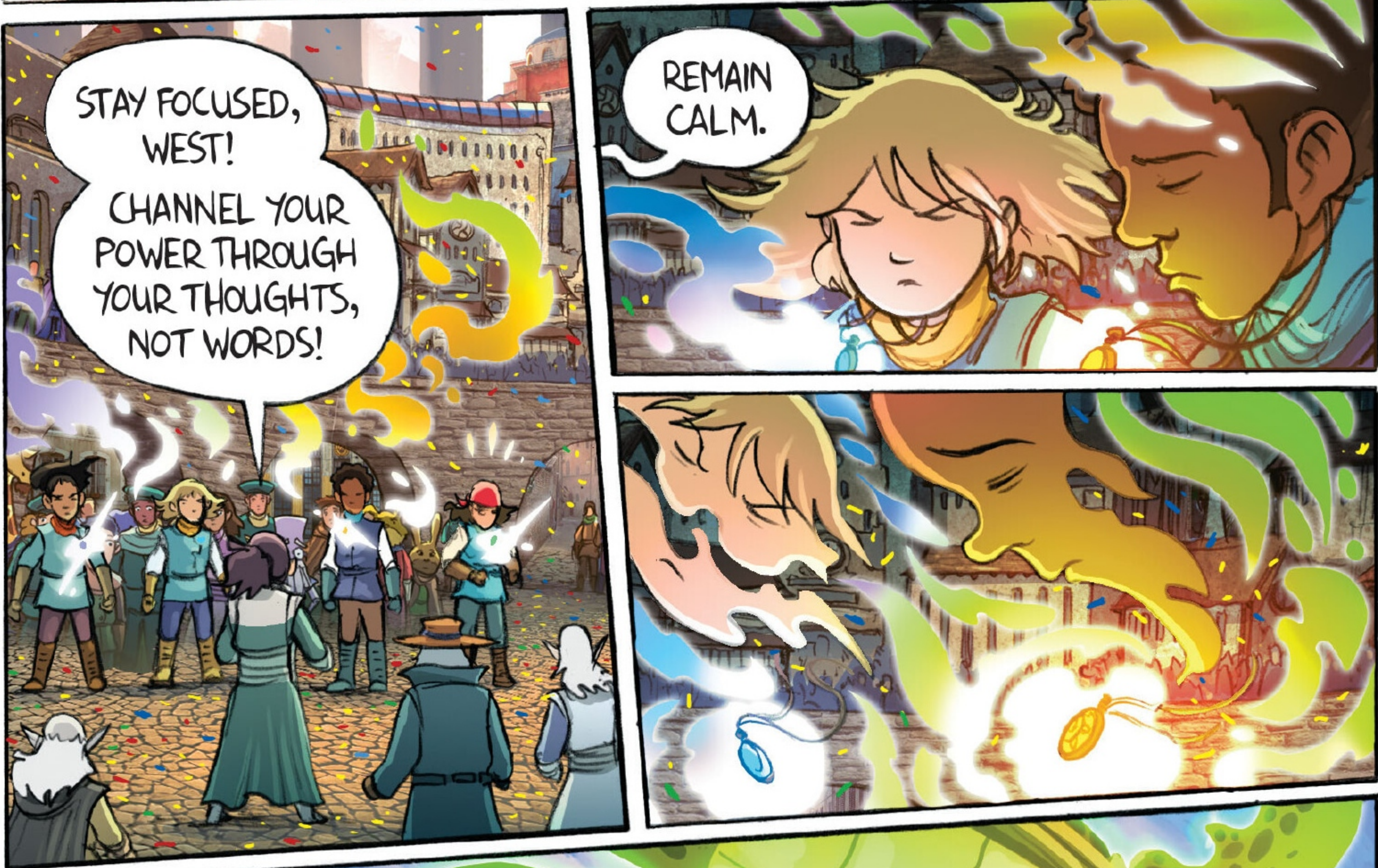
YOU MUST TRUST
EACH OTHER. YOU
MUST KNOW THAT
OTHERS ARE AT
YOUR SIDE.

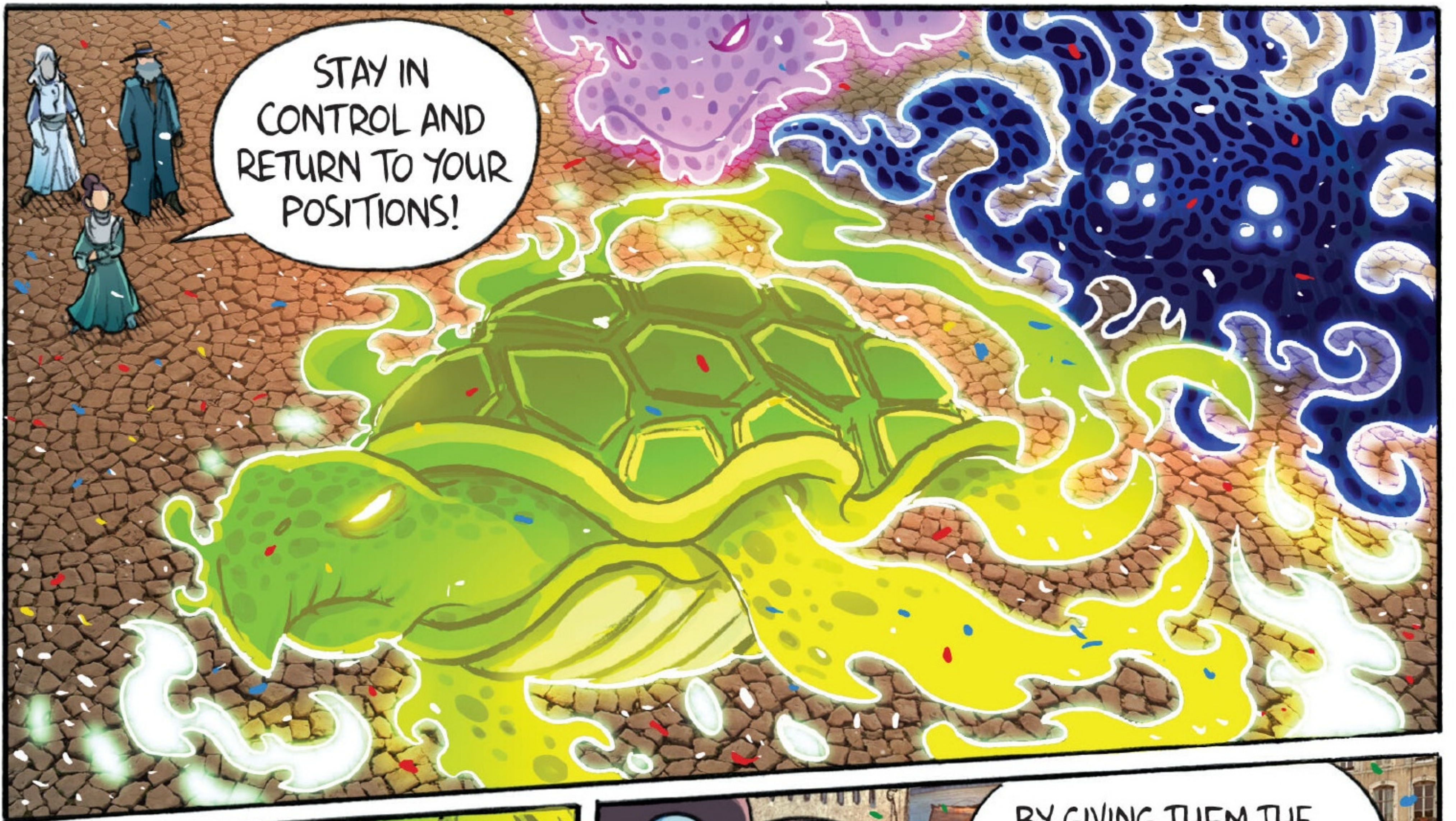


WE ARE MASTERS OF
DESTINY FOR ONLY
A MOMENT,
SO WE MUST BE
WILLING TO LET IT
PASS THROUGH US.

PREPARE TO
LET GO.

SOMETHING
IS WRONG.





THE OTHERS DO NOT APPRECIATE YOUR TALENT. THEY DO NOT SEE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

NOT LIKE I DO, WESTLEY.

I SEE YOU.



WE CAN SHOW THEM WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OF, AND THEY WILL NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOU AGAIN!



WEST!

DO NOT PUSH YOURSELF OVER THE EDGE!

STAND DOWN AND REGROUP!



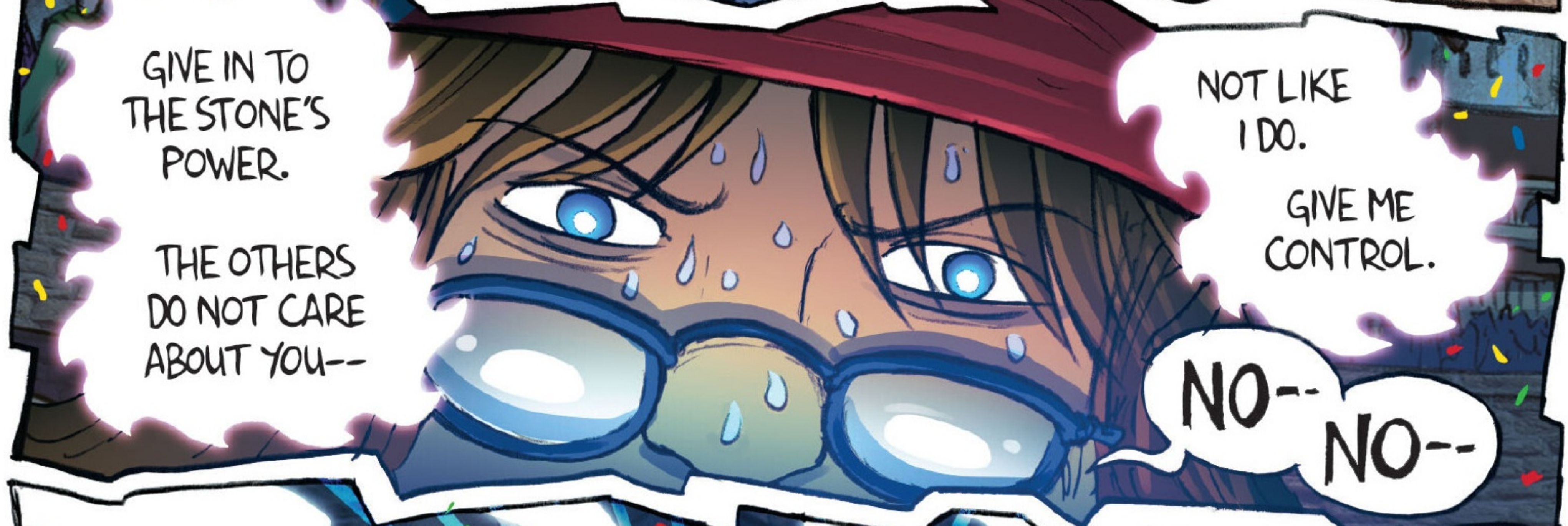
GIVE IN TO THE STONE'S POWER.

THE OTHERS DO NOT CARE ABOUT YOU--

NOT LIKE I DO.

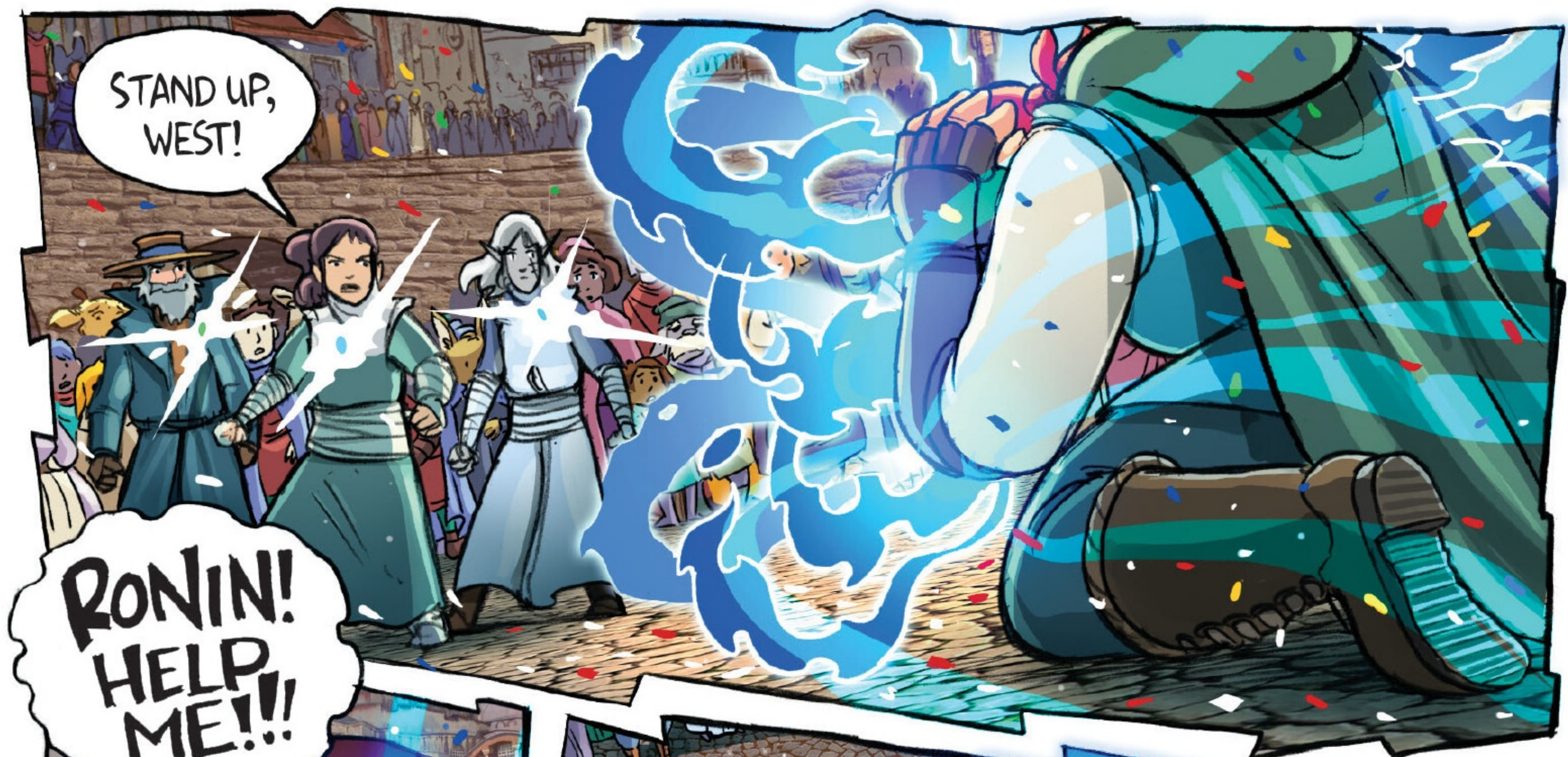
GIVE ME CONTROL.

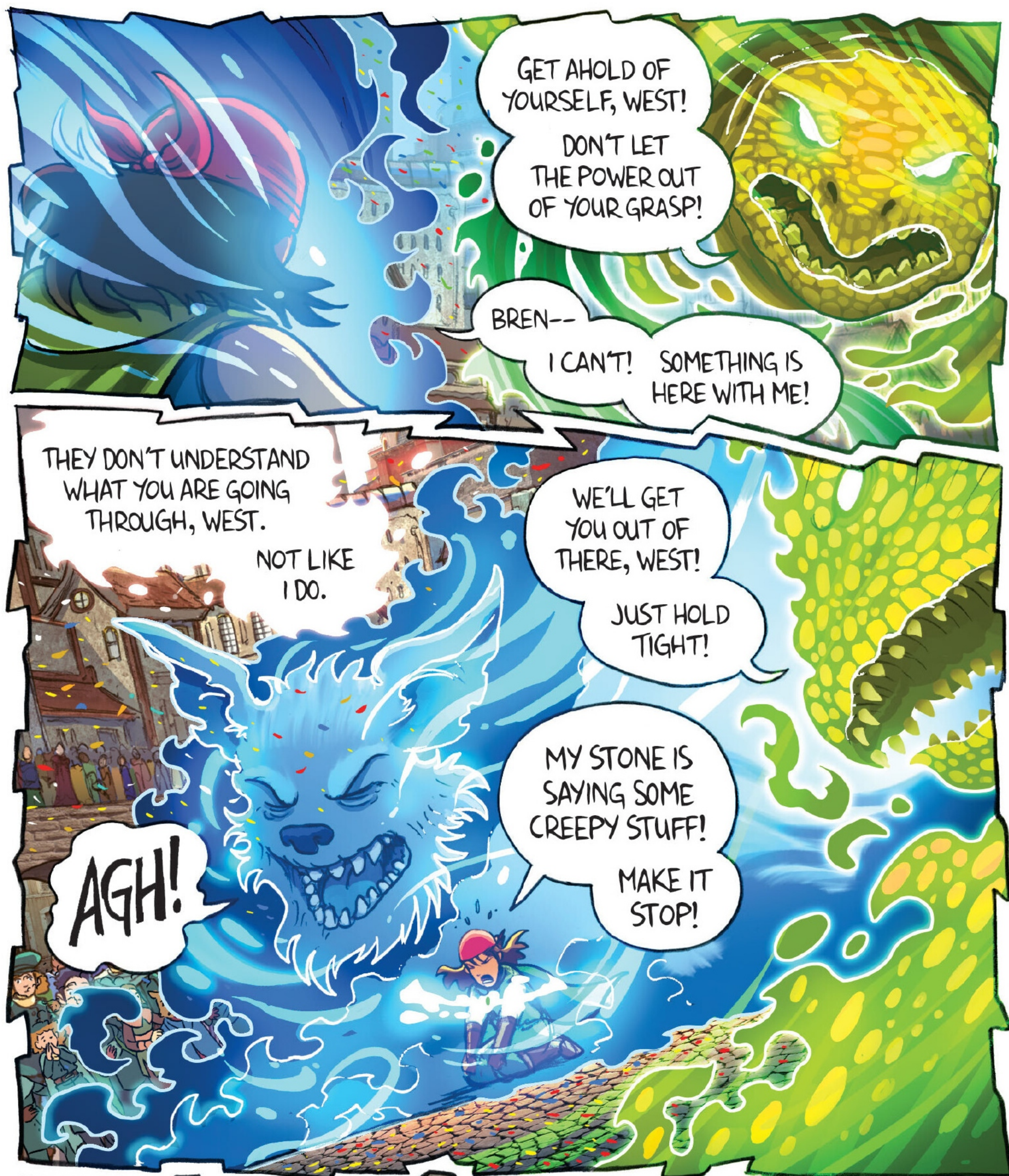
NO-- NO--



HELP ME!!!









GIVE IN TO ME, WEST.
AND YOU WILL HAVE ULTIMATE POWER IN RETURN.

STOP!!

NGH!



HELP!

PLEASE...
HELP...

IKOL--



LEAVE HIM ALONE.



TAKE ME INSTEAD.



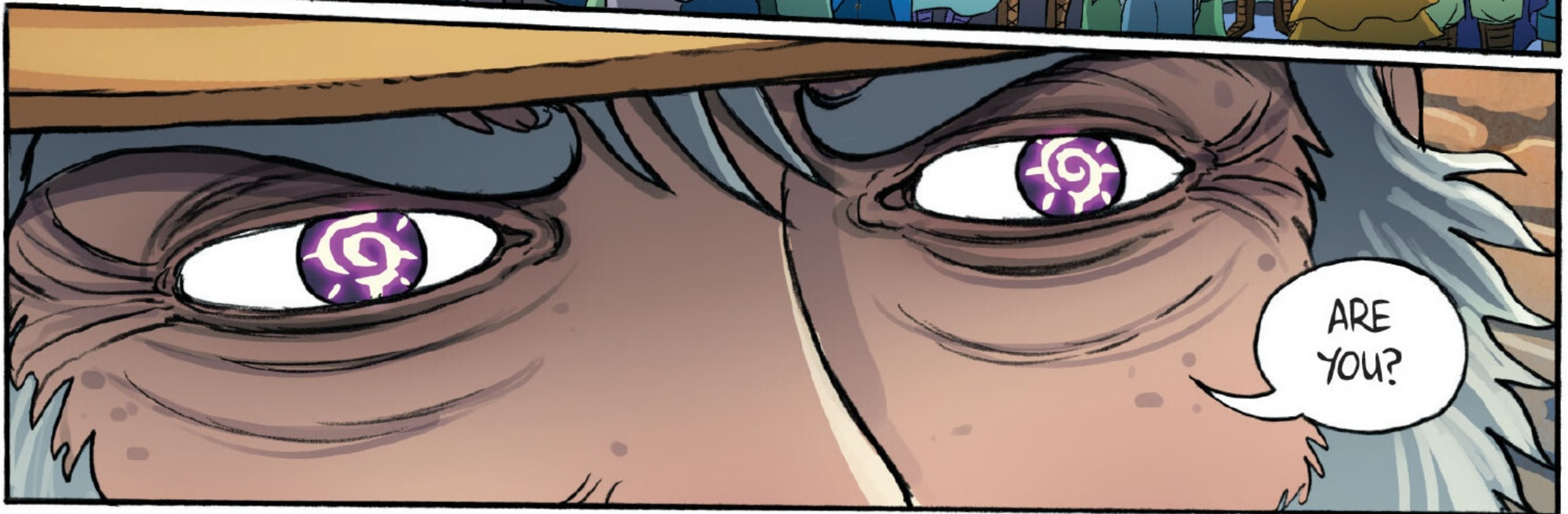
WHAT IS HE DOING?

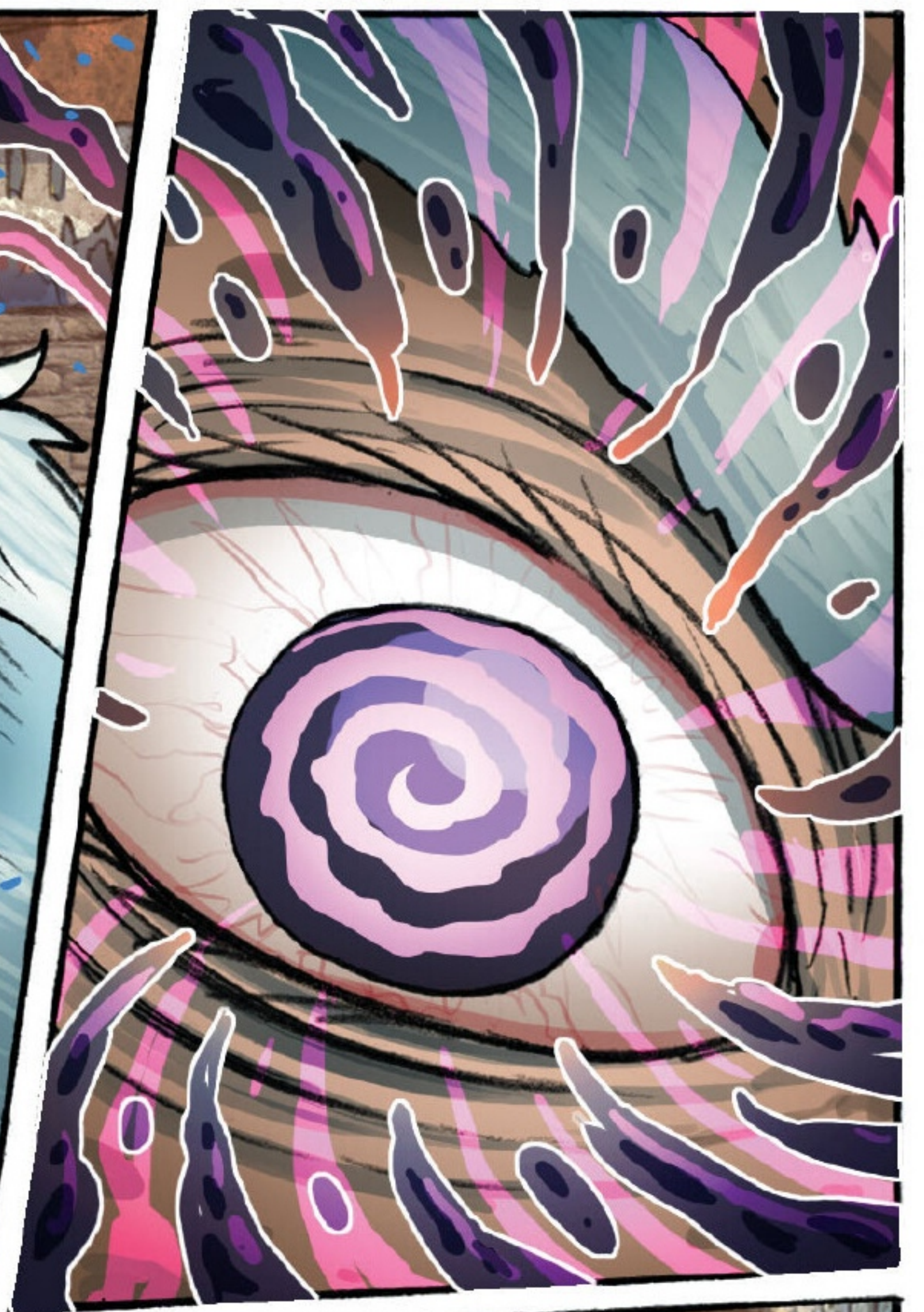


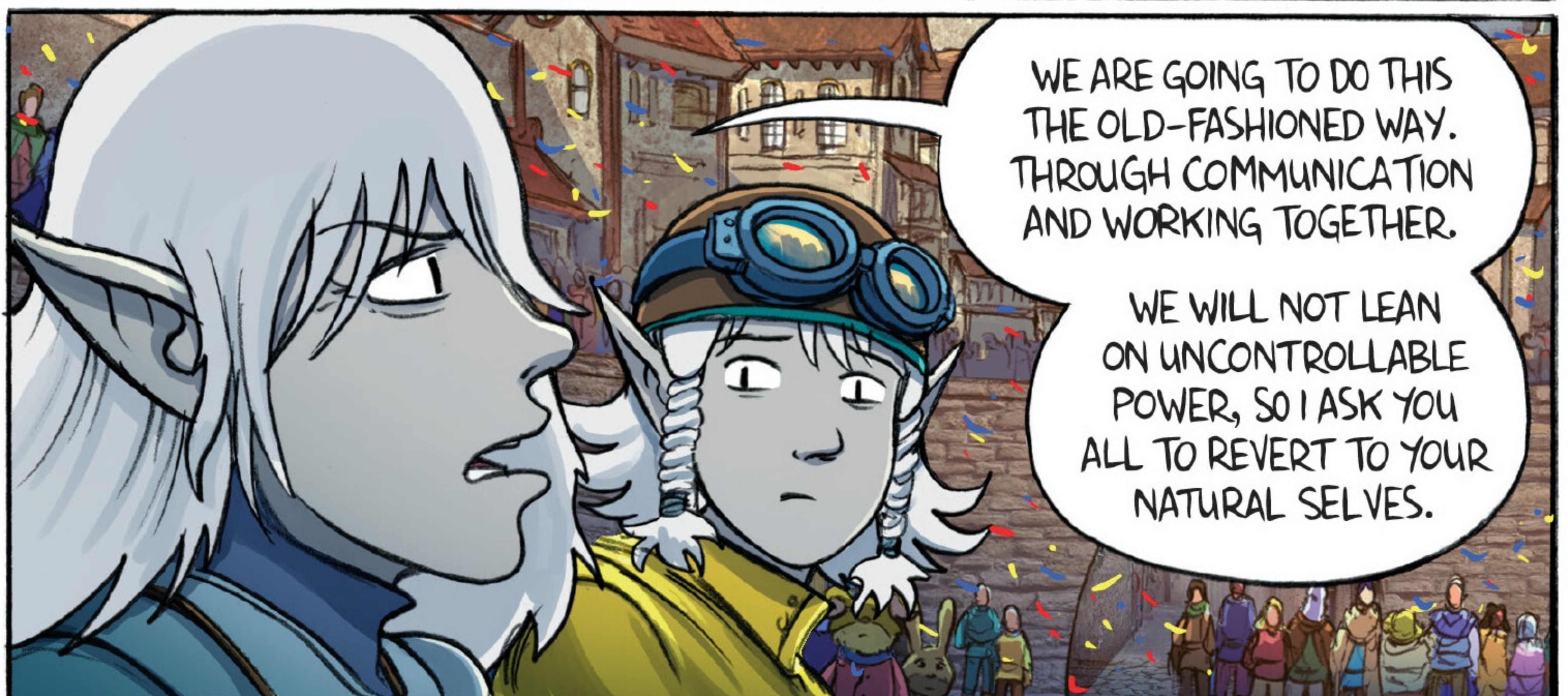
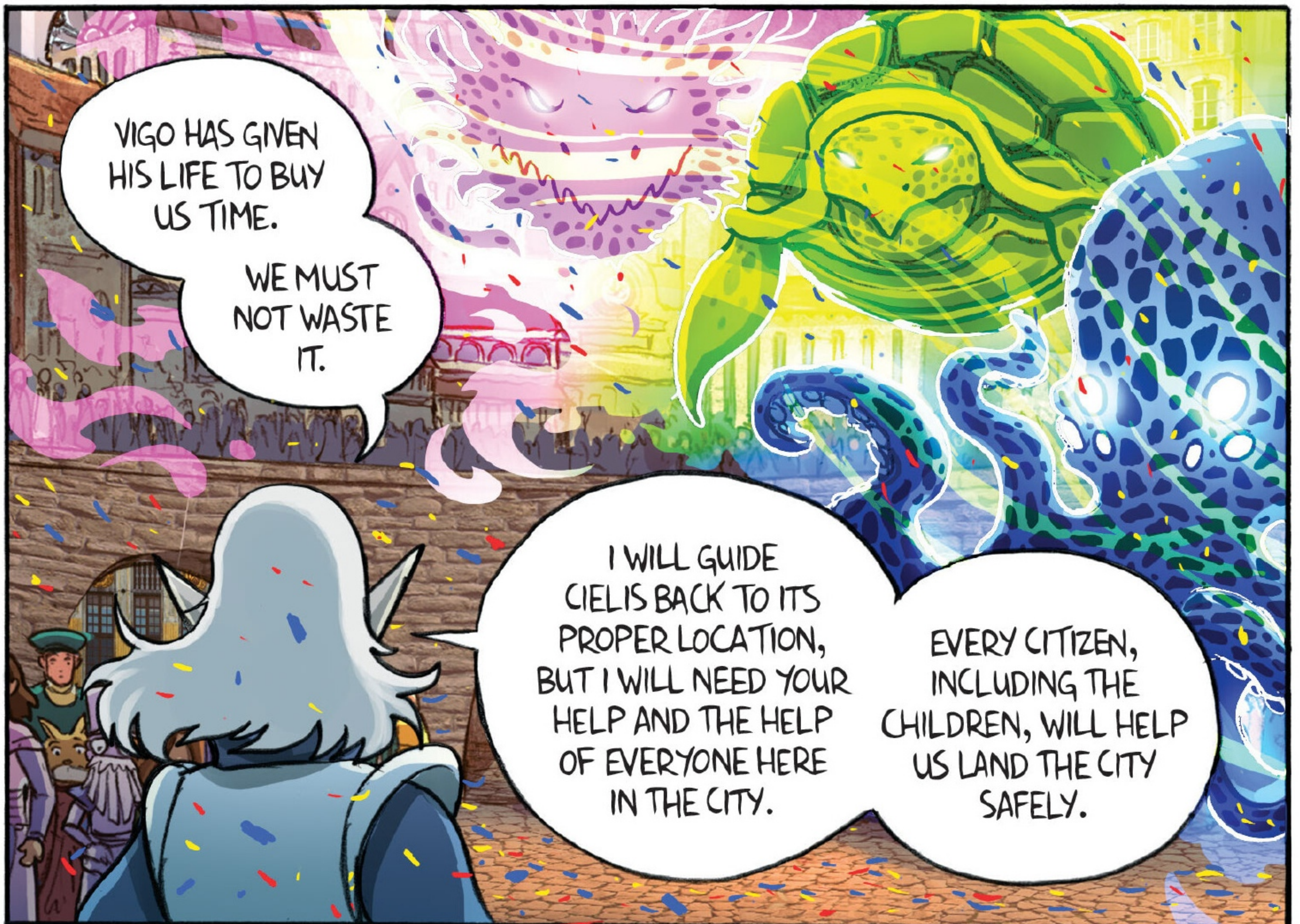
URP.

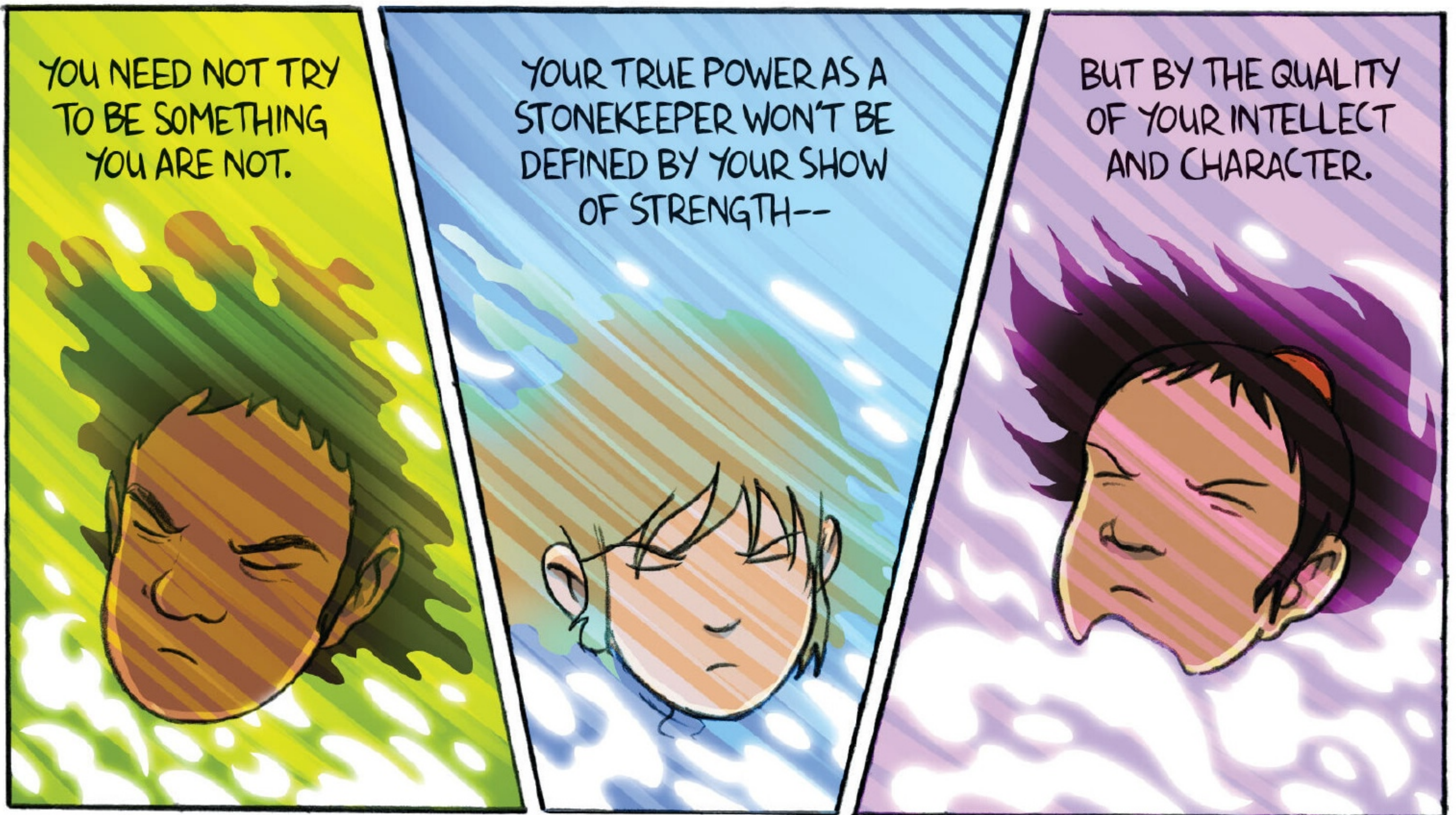


ACK!









YOU NEED NOT TRY
TO BE SOMETHING
YOU ARE NOT.

YOUR TRUE POWER AS A
STONEKEEPER WON'T BE
DEFINED BY YOUR SHOW
OF STRENGTH--

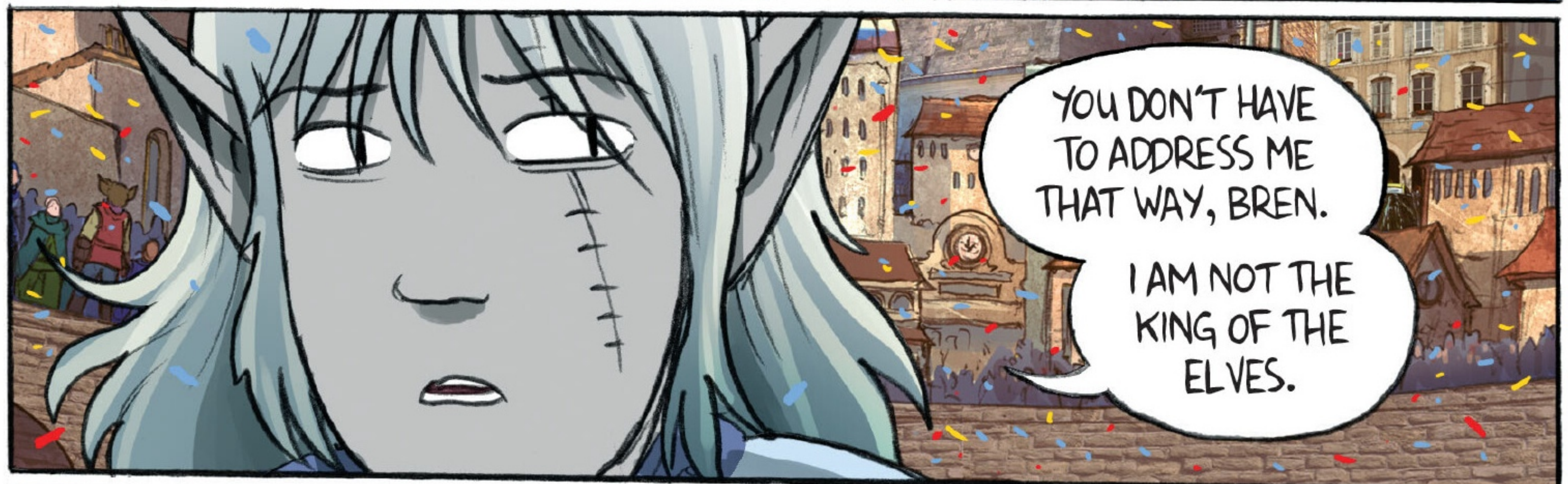
BUT BY THE QUALITY
OF YOUR INTELLECT
AND CHARACTER.



WE MUST WALK
AWAY FROM POWER
WE DO NOT NEED.

YES, YOUR
MAJESTY.

WE USE FORCE
ONLY AS A LAST
RESORT, NOT A
FIRST OPTION.



YOU DON'T HAVE
TO ADDRESS ME
THAT WAY, BREN.

I AM NOT THE
KING OF THE
ELVES.



I KNOW THAT,
YOUR MAJESTY.

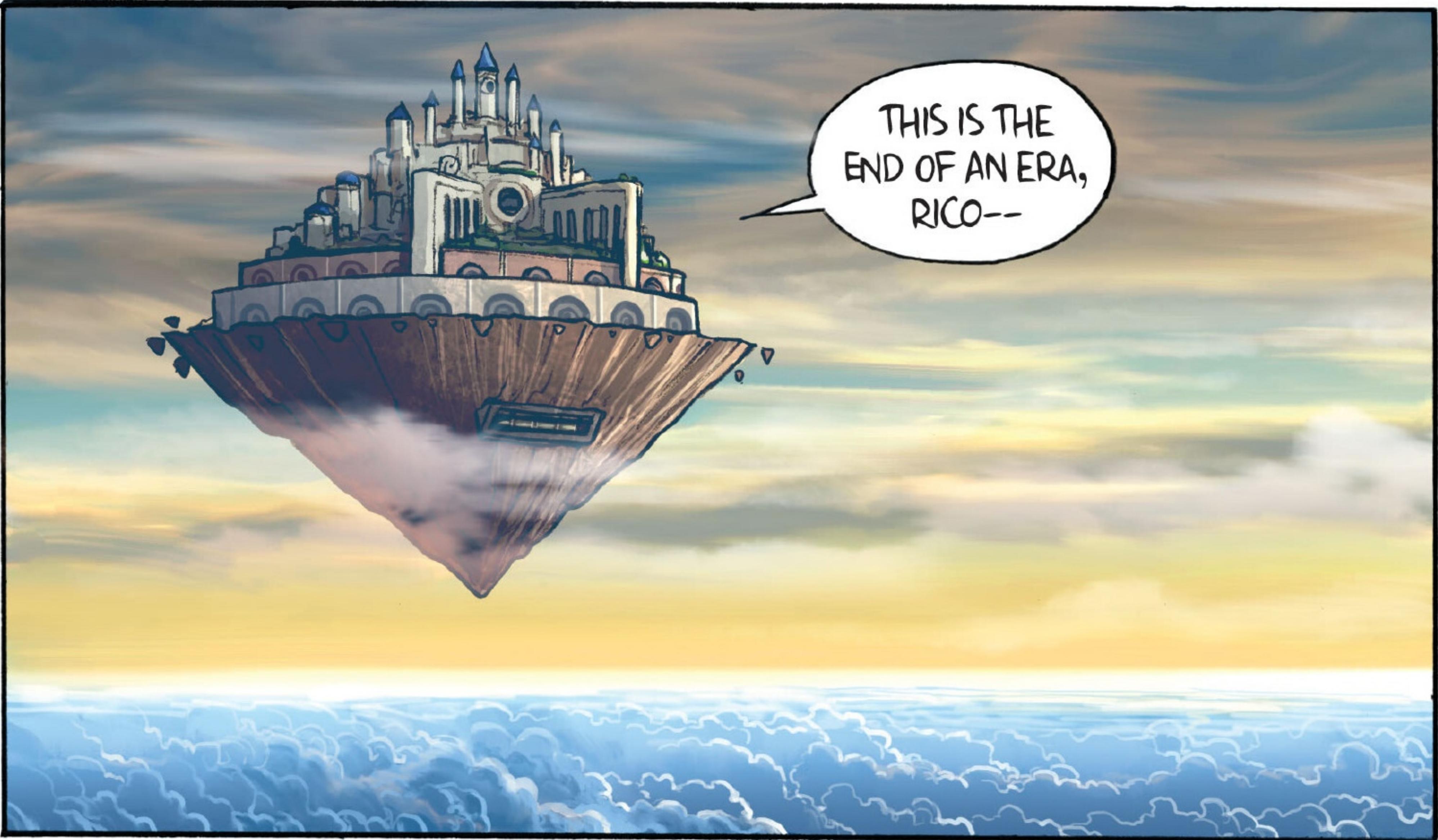
I HAVE STUDIED THE
OLD STORIES WELL
ENOUGH TO KNOW WHAT
IS HAPPENING HERE.

WE ARE NOW A PART
OF THE LEGEND OF
THE ELVEN KING.



YOU MAY NO LONGER BE
THE KING OF VALCOR OR
RULER OF THE ELVES, BUT
YOU WILL LEAD US HERE IN
CIELIS AS THE ELDER
STONEKEEPER OF THE
GUARDIAN COUNCIL.





THIS IS THE
END OF AN ERA,
RICO--



AND ALSO
THE END OF
MY BUSINESS
PLANS.

HOW WILL WE
SELL VACATIONS
TO THIS PLACE IF
ANYONE CAN
COME HERE?

I THINK THIS
IS A REALLY GOOD
THING FOR ALLEDIA,
ENZO.

WE WILL
FIND OTHER
WAYS TO MAKE
A LIVING.



I SUPPOSE
WE WILL HAVE A
BIGGER BASE OF
CUSTOMERS.

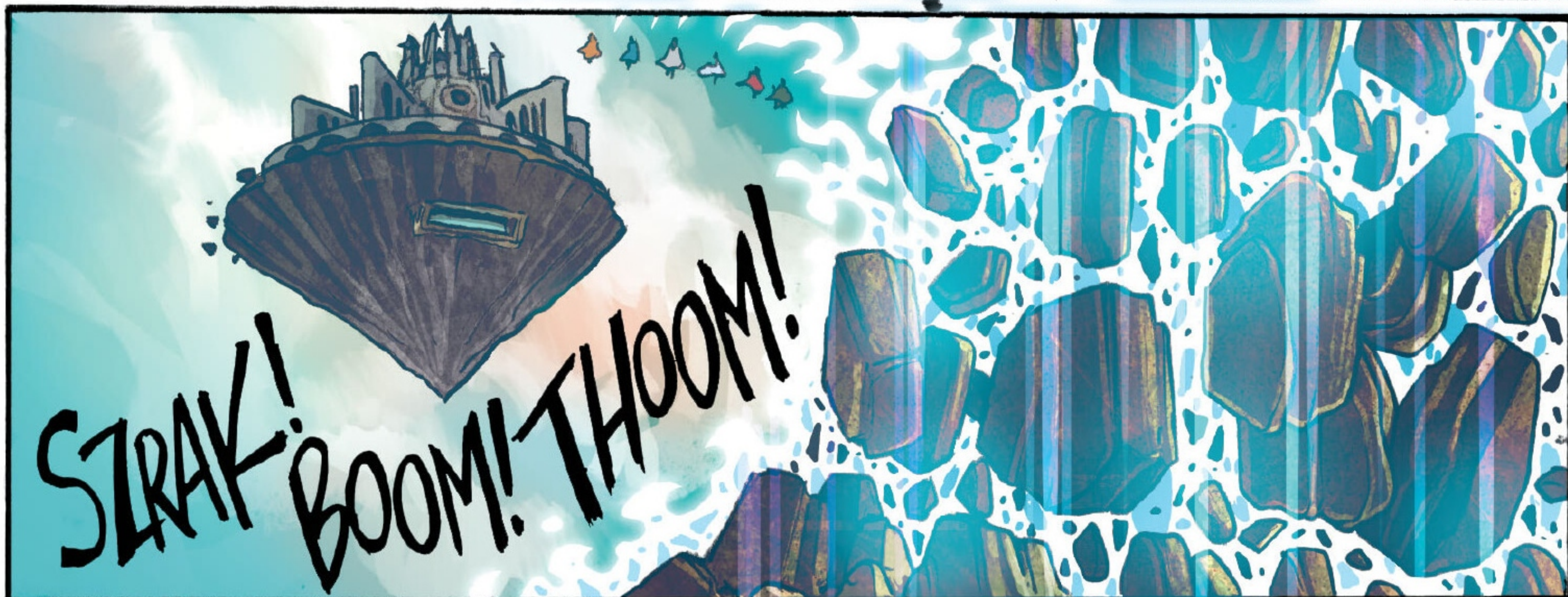
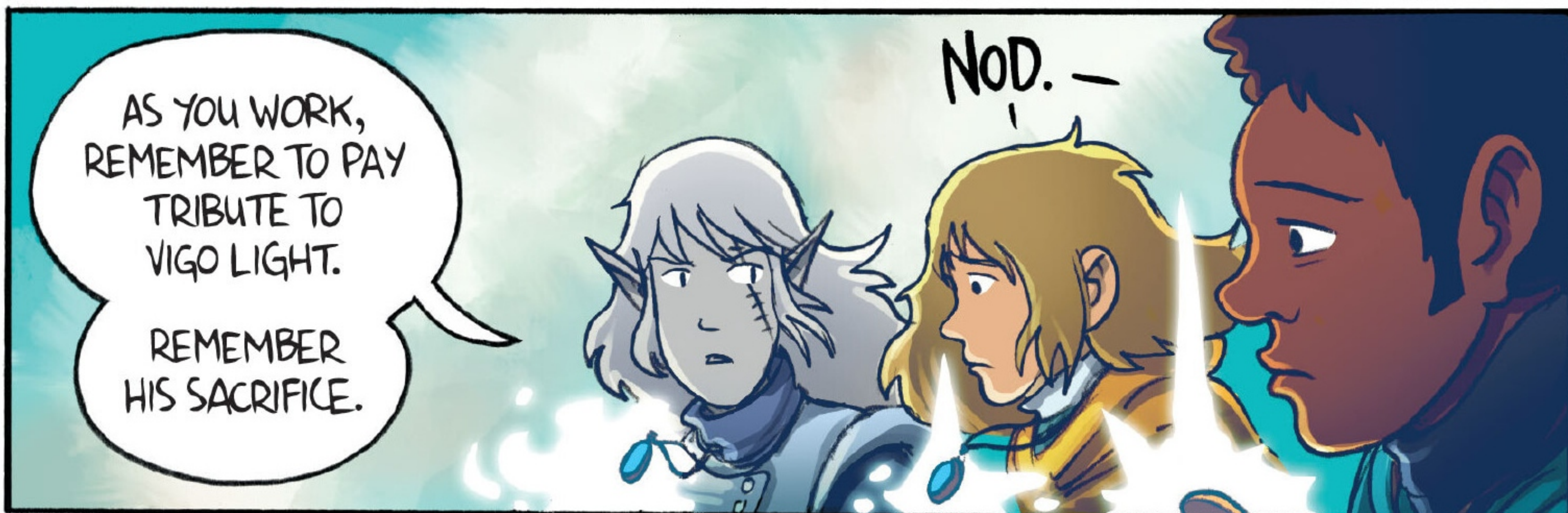


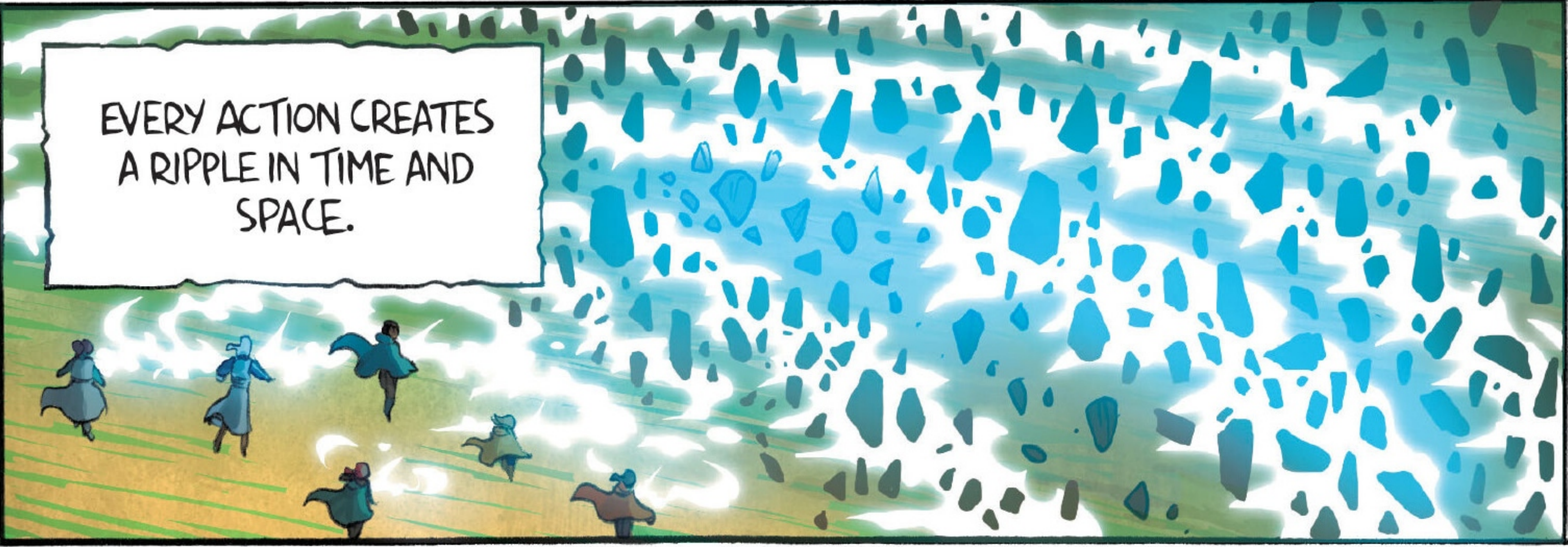
MAYBE
BUSINESS WON'T
BE SO BAD.



WE'LL JUST
MAKE IT WORK
OUT!







EVERY ACTION CREATES
A RIPPLE IN TIME AND
SPACE.



EACH RIPPLE HAS THE
POTENTIAL TO BECOME
A GIANT WAVE WHEN
AMPLIFIED OUT ACROSS
THE UNIVERSE.



WHAT WE DO HERE
RESONATES FAR BEYOND
OUR REACH AND VISION.



IKOL WAS A MASTER OF
LIES, BUT EVERY NOW AND
THEN HE OBSERVED THE
TRUTH.



HE USED THESE
TRUTHS TO MAKE ME
BELIEVE THAT HE
AND I WERE ALONE.

THAT THE FATE
OF THE UNIVERSE
RESTED UPON OUR
SHOULDERS.

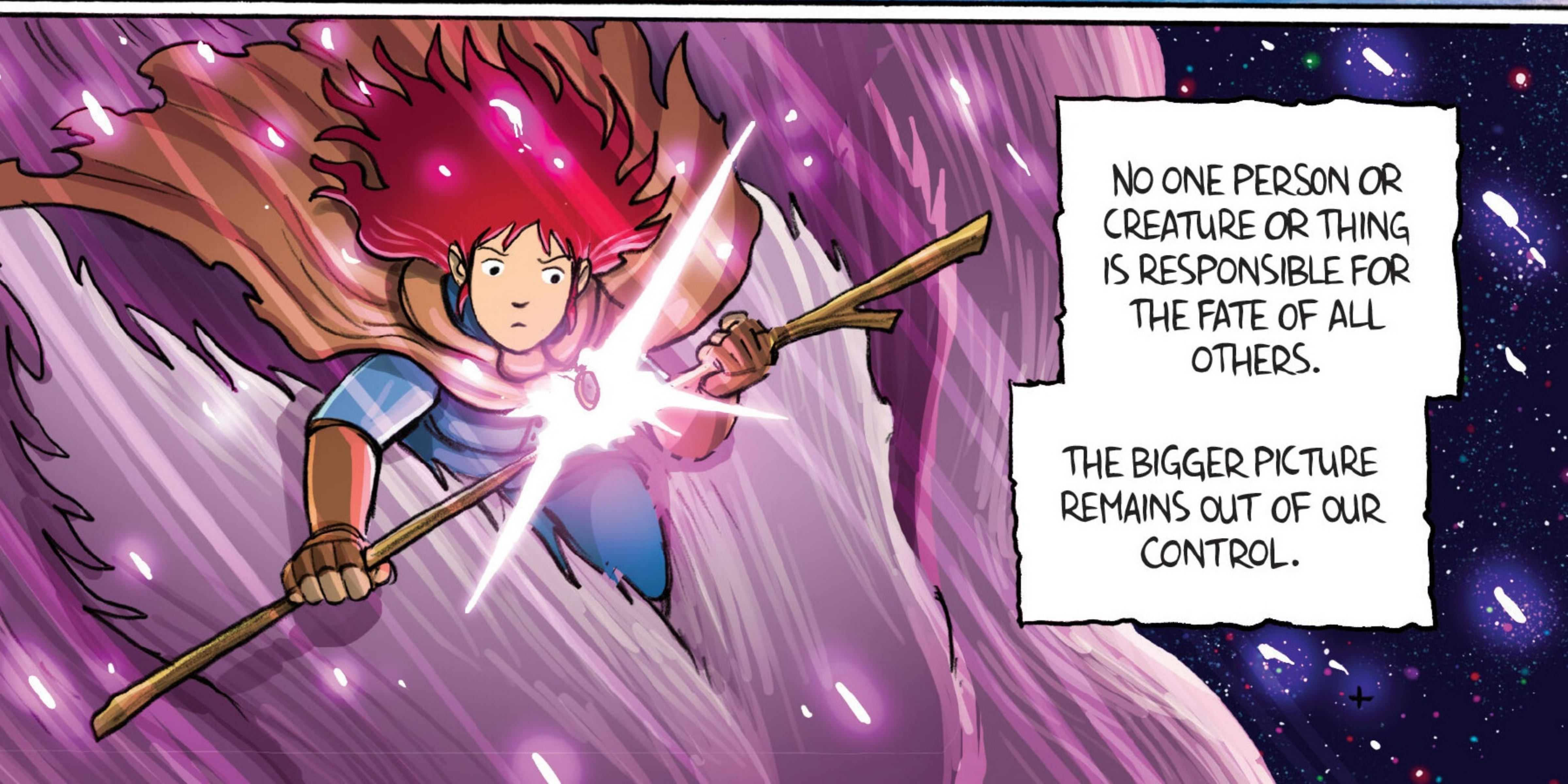


BUT THIS WAS
NEVER TRUE.

WE ARE ALL A
PART OF A MUCH
BIGGER PICTURE--



A PICTURE
THAT PAINTS
ITSELF.



NO ONE PERSON OR
CREATURE OR THING
IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
THE FATE OF ALL
OTHERS.

THE BIGGER PICTURE
REMAINS OUT OF OUR
CONTROL.

EVERY ONE OF US HAS A
PART TO PLAY.



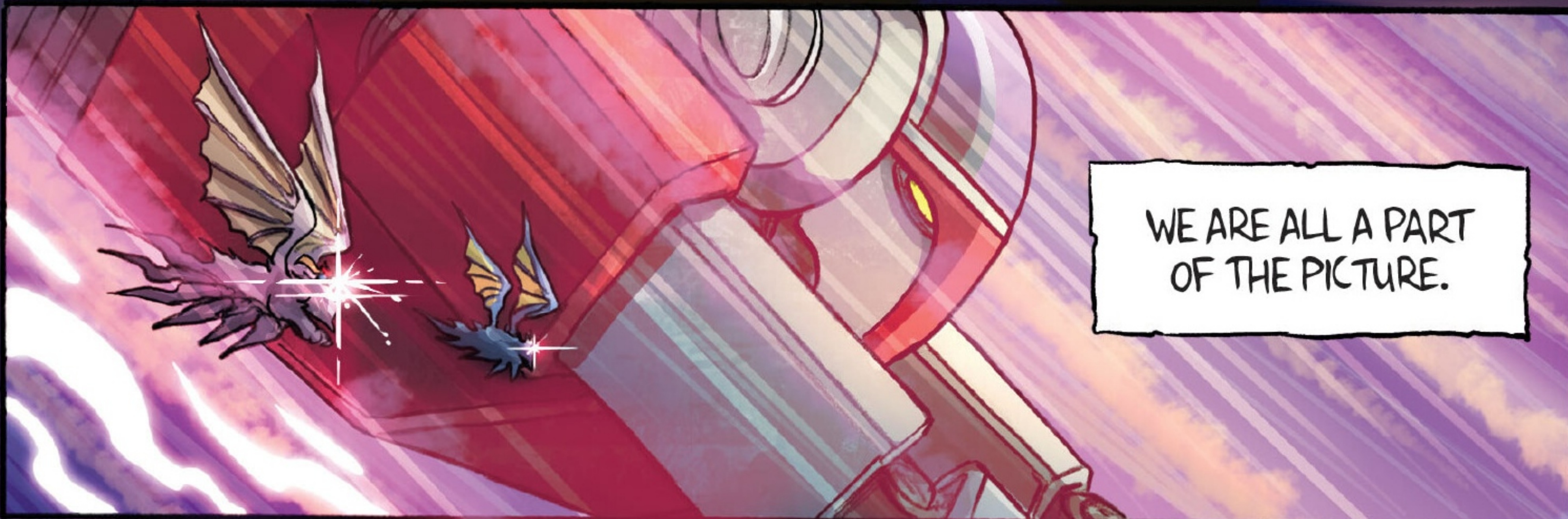
EVEN WHEN WE ARE
WORLDS APART--



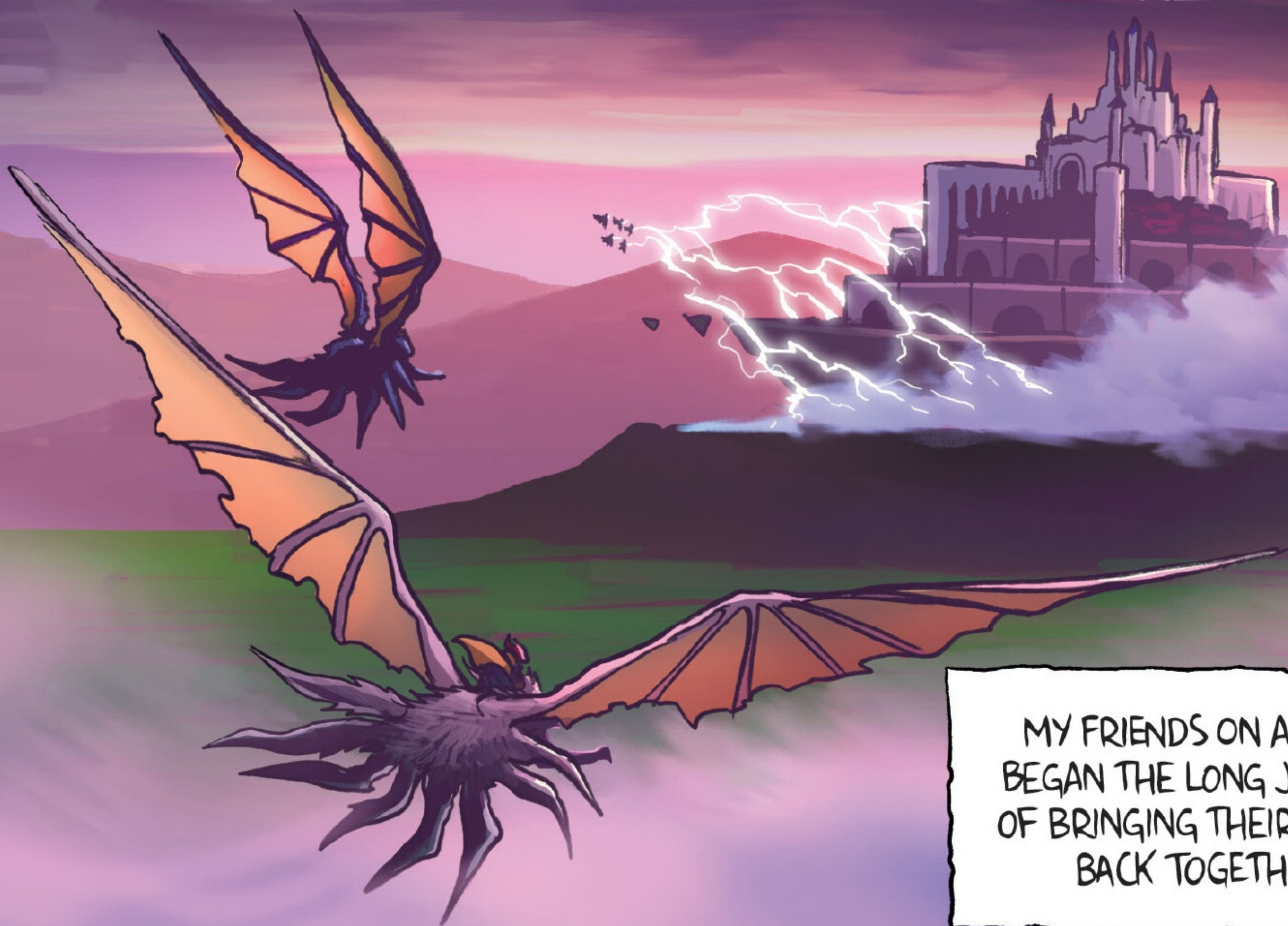
OR SEPARATED BY TIME
AND KNOWLEDGE.



WE ARE ALL A PART
OF THE PICTURE.



MY FRIENDS ON ALLEDIA
BEGAN THE LONG JOURNEY
OF BRINGING THEIR WORLD
BACK TOGETHER.





TRELLIS DEVELOPED INTO THE LEADER HE WAS DESTINED TO BE.



WITH RONIN'S DISCIPLES FROM THE QUARRY BY HIS SIDE, TRELLIS WOULD RULE OVER MANY YEARS OF PEACE IN ALLEDIA.



TRELLIS WOULD ASK ME TO JOIN THEM.

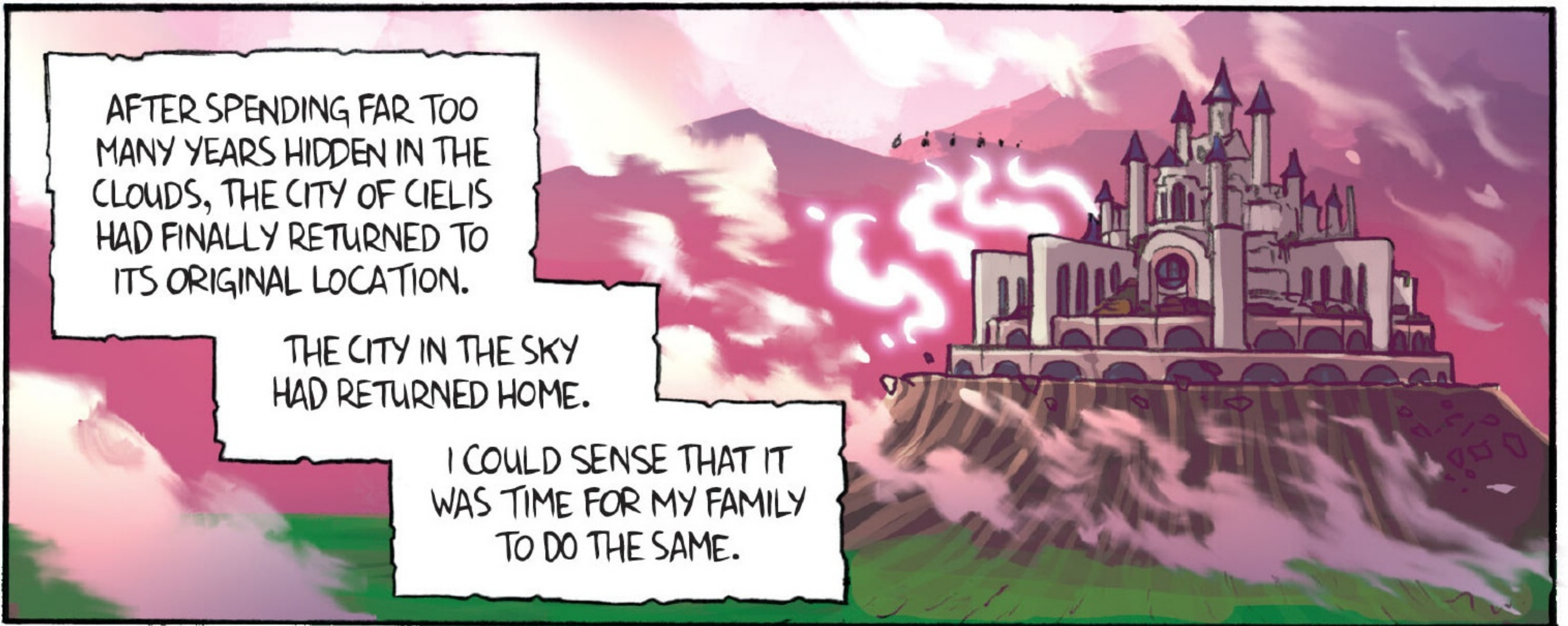
AS MUCH AS I WANTED TO CONTINUE MY JOURNEY WITH THE STONEKEEPERS--
I FELT THAT I COULD NOT ACCEPT.



IT WAS A GUT FEELING.

I KNEW MY WORK WOULD CONTINUE, BUT NOT HERE ON ALLEDIA.

I KNEW THIS WOULD MARK THE END OF MY FIRST OFF-WORLD ADVENTURE.



AFTER SPENDING FAR TOO MANY YEARS HIDDEN IN THE CLOUDS, THE CITY OF CIELIS HAD FINALLY RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL LOCATION.

THE CITY IN THE SKY HAD RETURNED HOME.

I COULD SENSE THAT IT WAS TIME FOR MY FAMILY TO DO THE SAME.



TRELLIS AND THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL WOULD HAVE PLENTY OF HELP--

WITH ALLIES LIKE KING GABILAN AND MAYOR RIVA ASH BY THEIR SIDE.



THE RETURN OF CIELIS SERVED AS A BEACON OF HOPE.

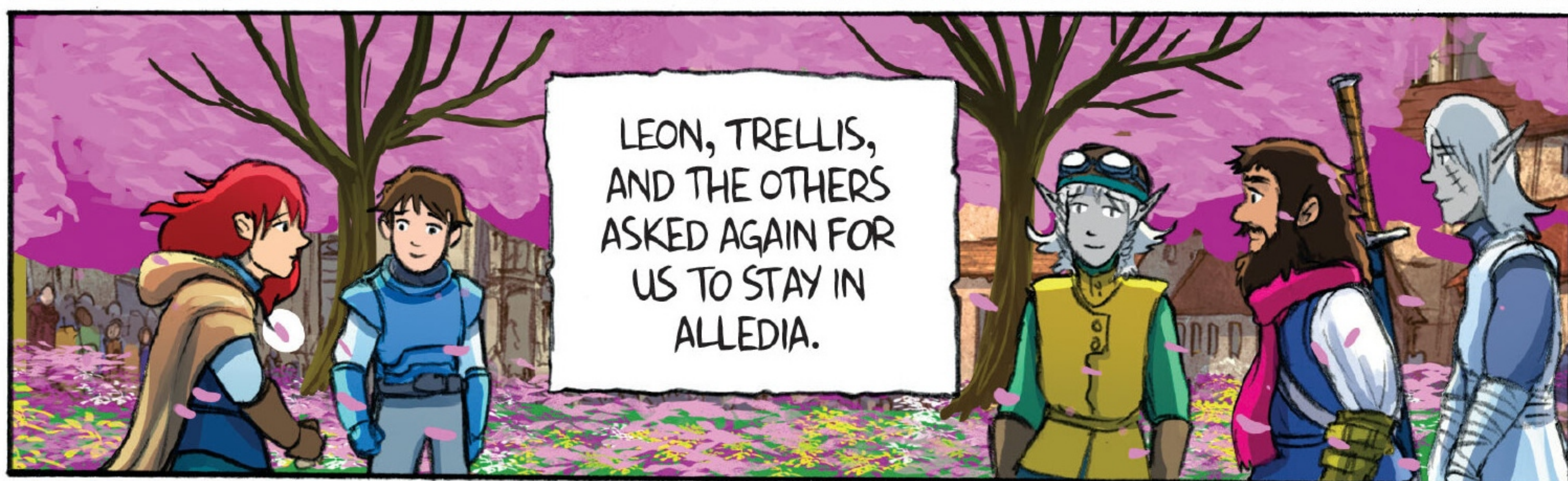
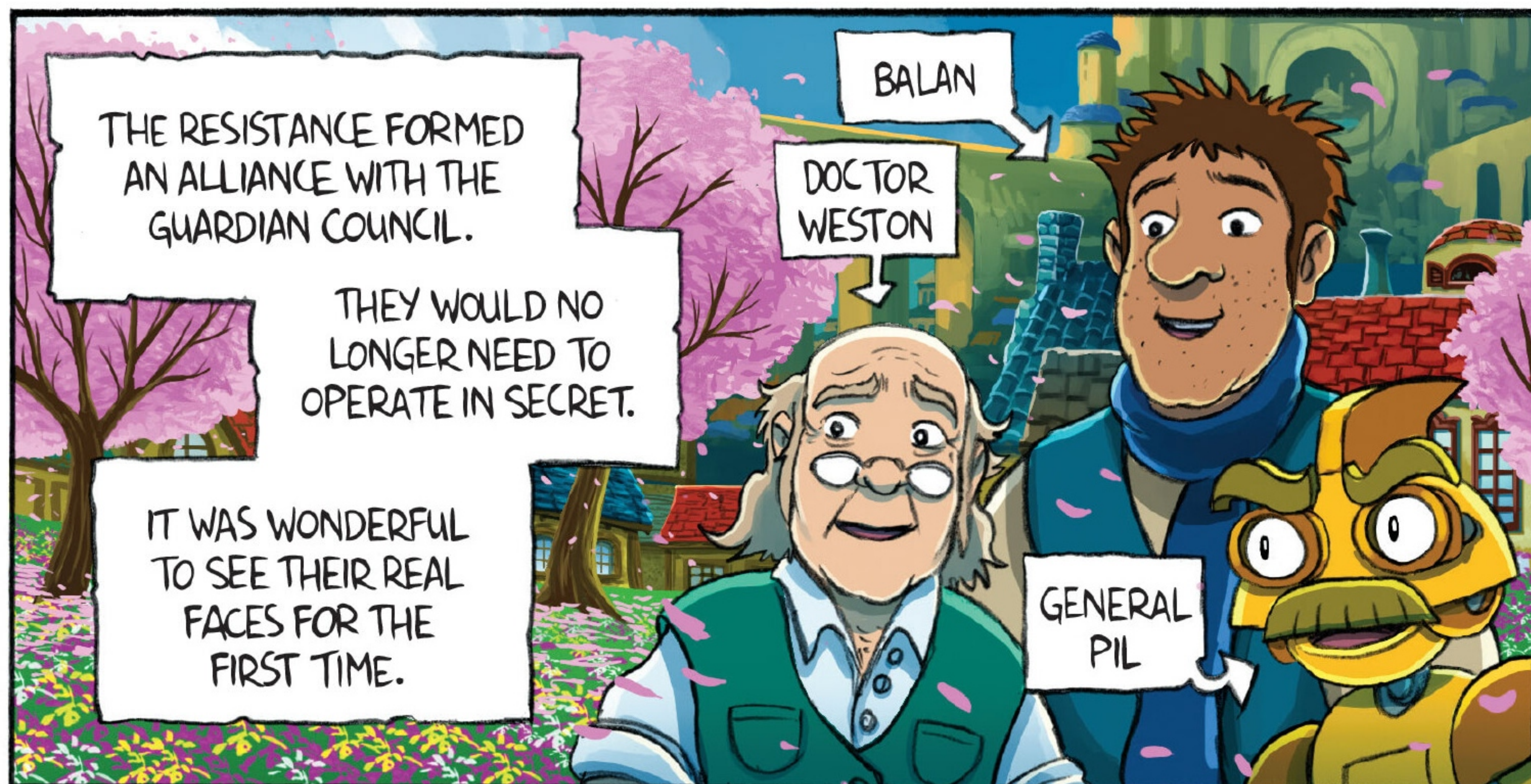


A SIGN THAT TRUE LEADERS HAD RETURNED TO ALLEDIA.

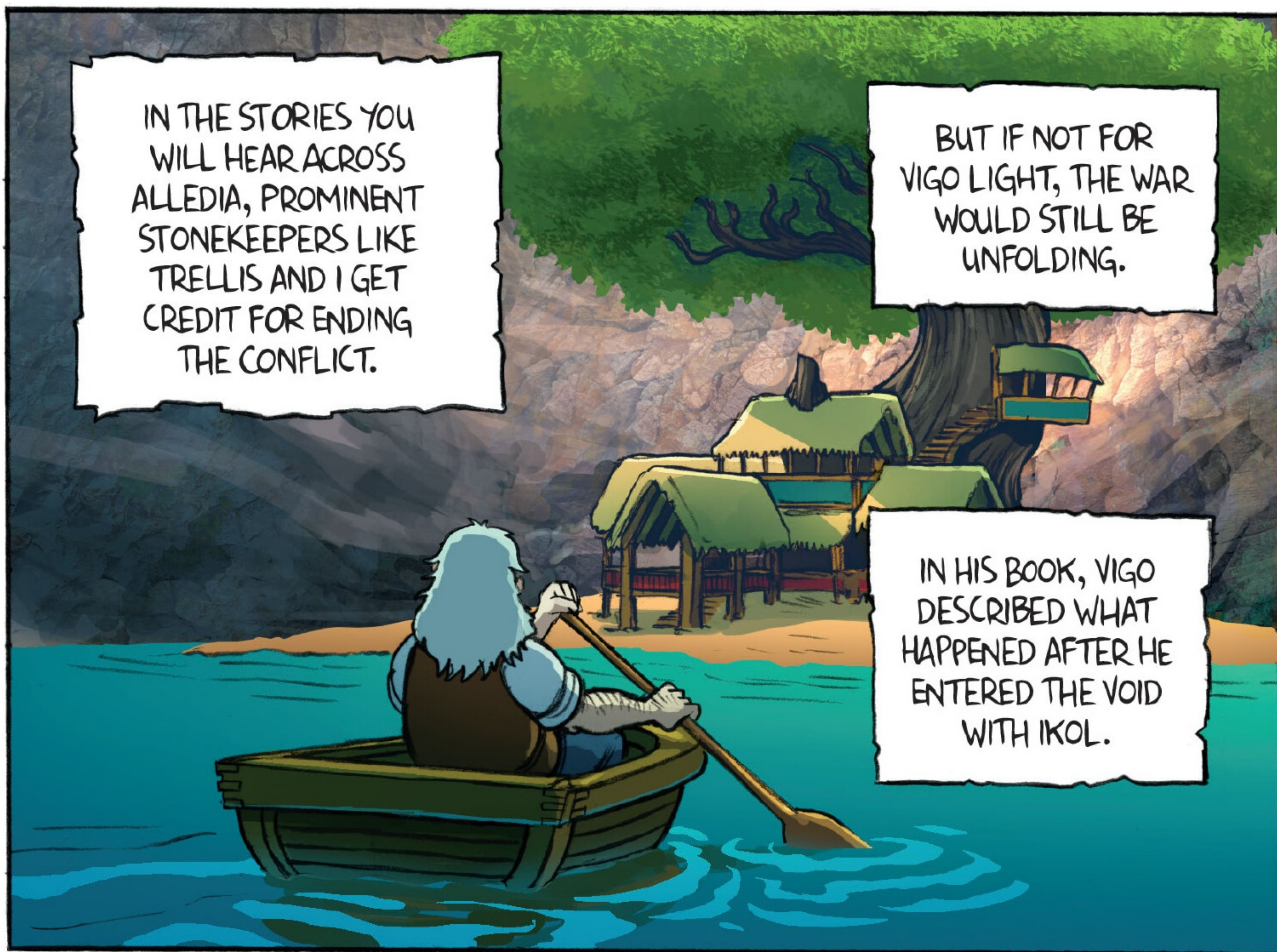


I INTRODUCED THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL TO CALA AND CORA, WHO WERE QUICKLY EMBRACED AS NEW MEMBERS OF THE GROUP.

THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BECOME THE SUBJECT OF COUNTLESS LEGENDS AND TALL TALES.







IN THE STORIES YOU
WILL HEAR ACROSS
ALLEDIA, PROMINENT
STONEKEEPERS LIKE
TRELLIS AND I GET
CREDIT FOR ENDING
THE CONFLICT.

BUT IF NOT FOR
VIGO LIGHT, THE WAR
WOULD STILL BE
UNFOLDING.

IN HIS BOOK, VIGO
DESCRIBED WHAT
HAPPENED AFTER HE
ENTERED THE VOID
WITH IKOL.

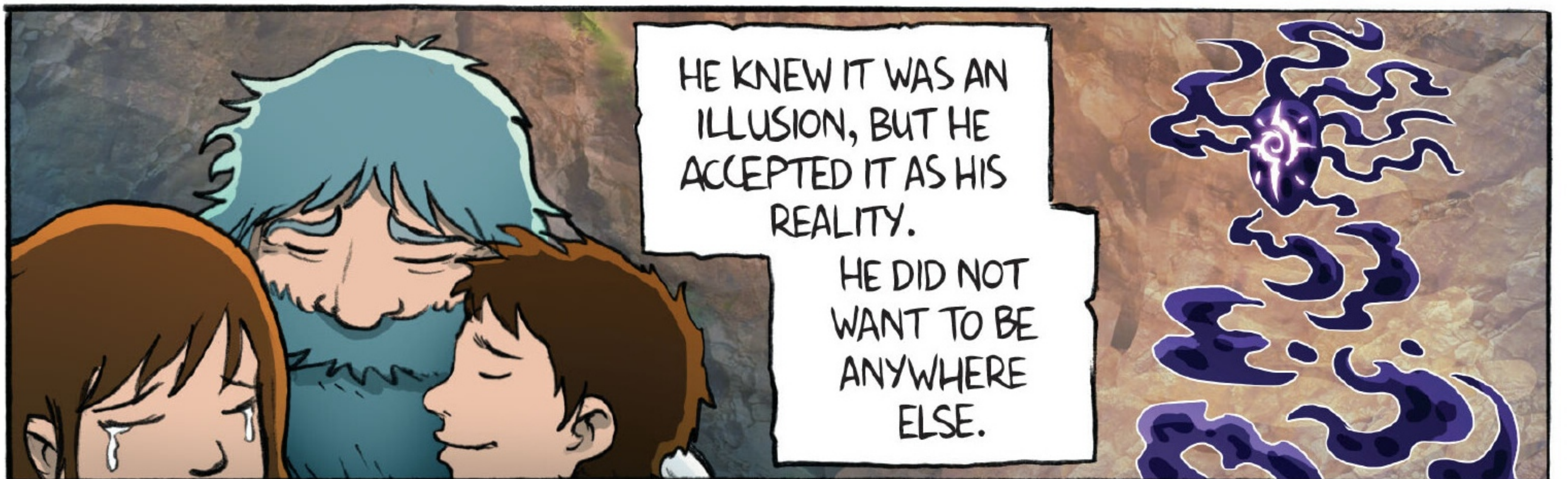
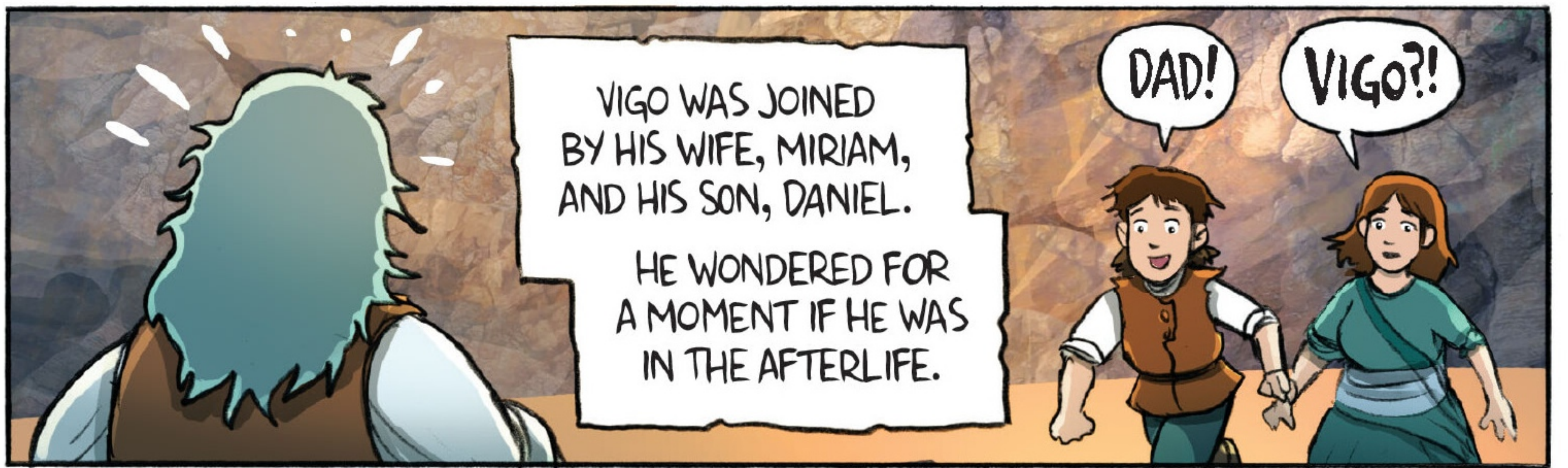
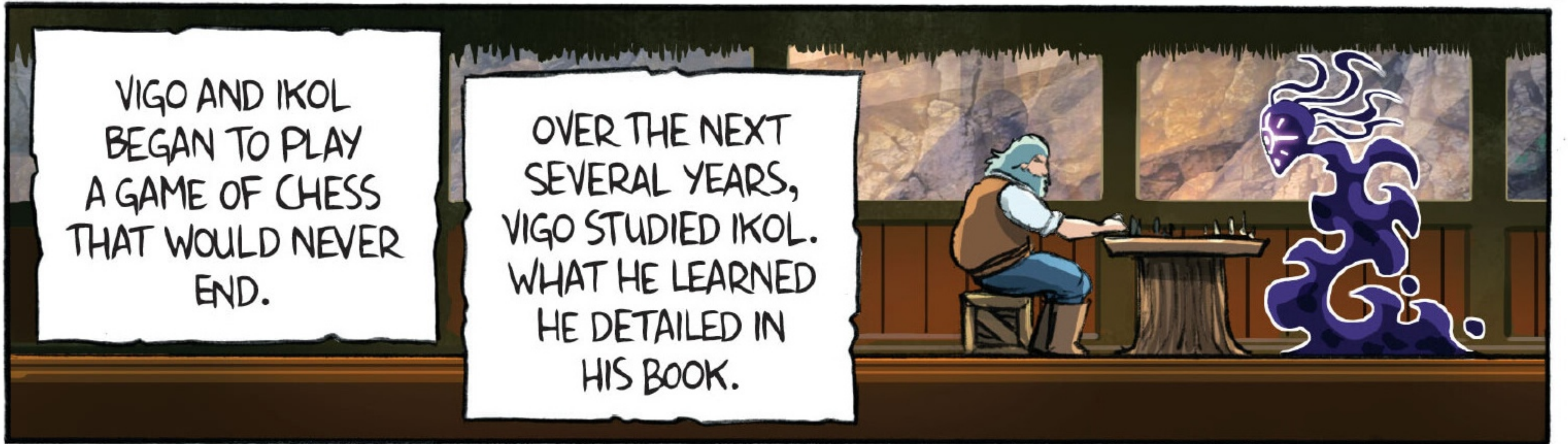


HE FOUND HIMSELF
BACK HOME, OR AT
LEAST WHAT LOOKED
LIKE HIS HOME.

HE KNEW THIS
WAS ONLY AN
ILLUSION.



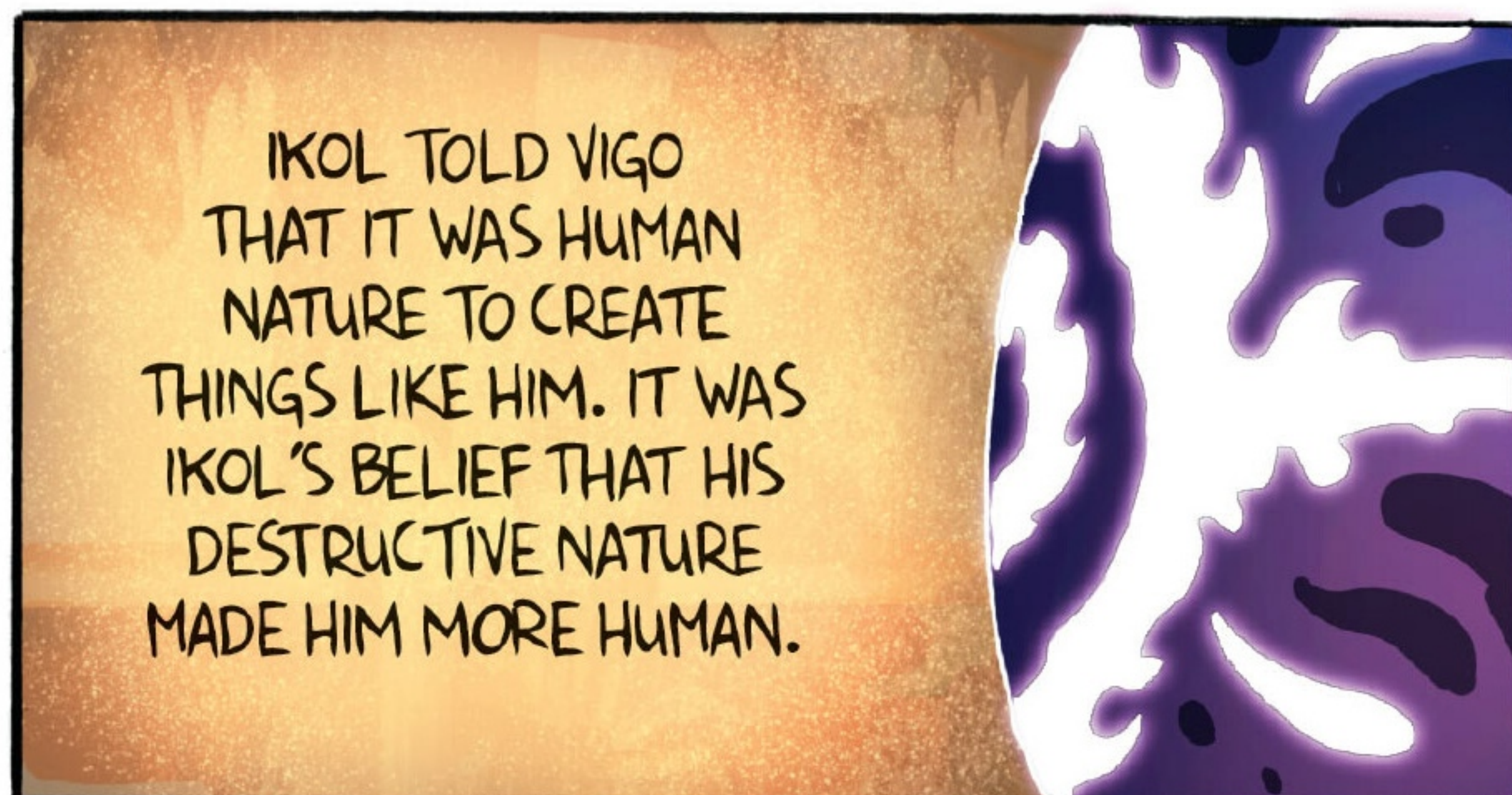
VIGO'S ENCLAVE IS WHERE
HE ALWAYS INTENDED TO
SPEND THE REST OF HIS
DAYS, AND NOW HE WOULD
DO JUST THAT IN AN
UNEXPECTED WAY.



HE DISCOVERED THAT IKOL WAS FROM EARTH, AND HE PONDERED THE REASONS WHY ANYONE WOULD CREATE SOMETHING SO DESTRUCTIVE.



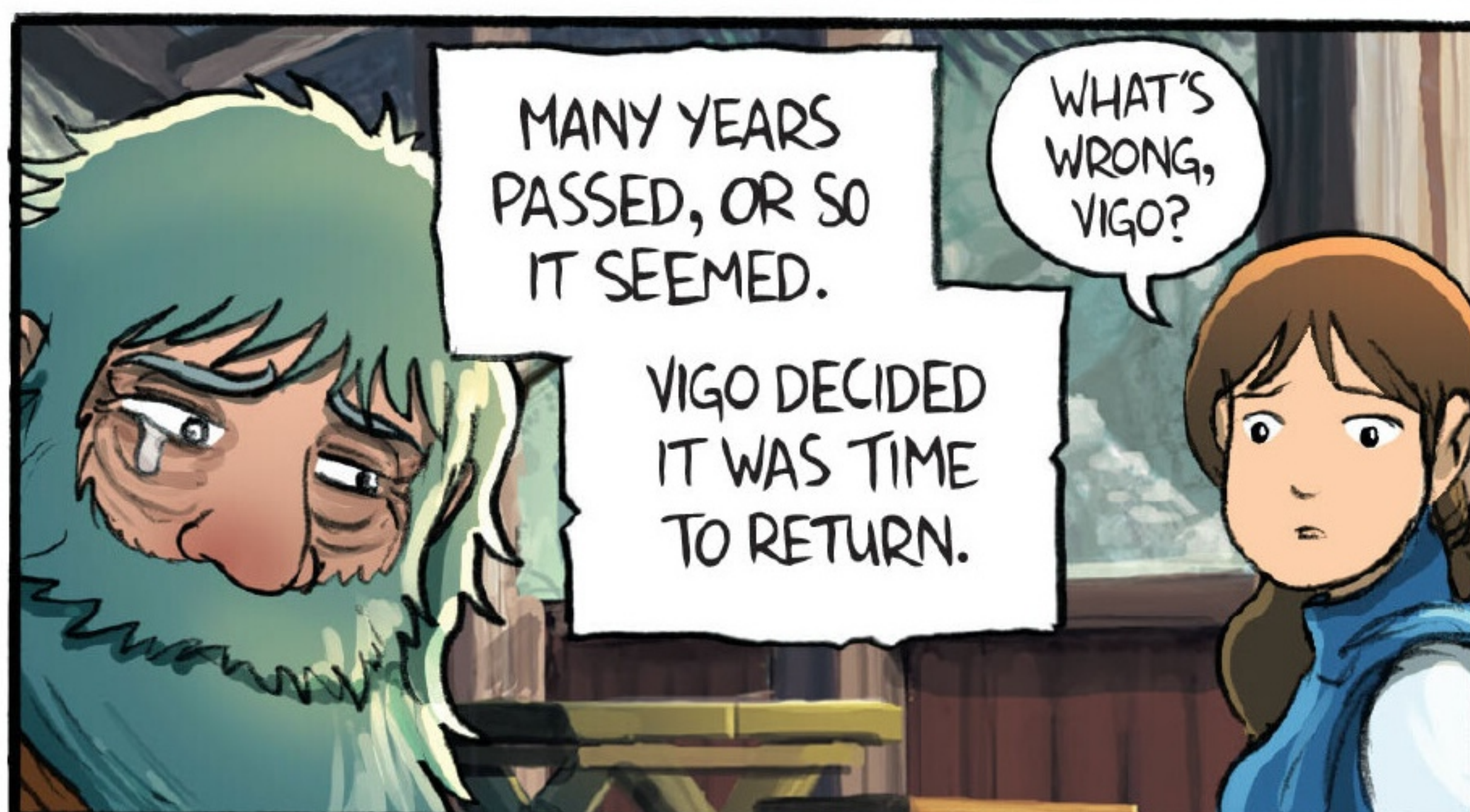
IKOL TOLD VIGO THAT IT WAS HUMAN NATURE TO CREATE THINGS LIKE HIM. IT WAS IKOL'S BELIEF THAT HIS DESTRUCTIVE NATURE MADE HIM MORE HUMAN.



MANY YEARS PASSED, OR SO IT SEEMED.

VIGO DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO RETURN.

WHAT'S WRONG, VIGO?



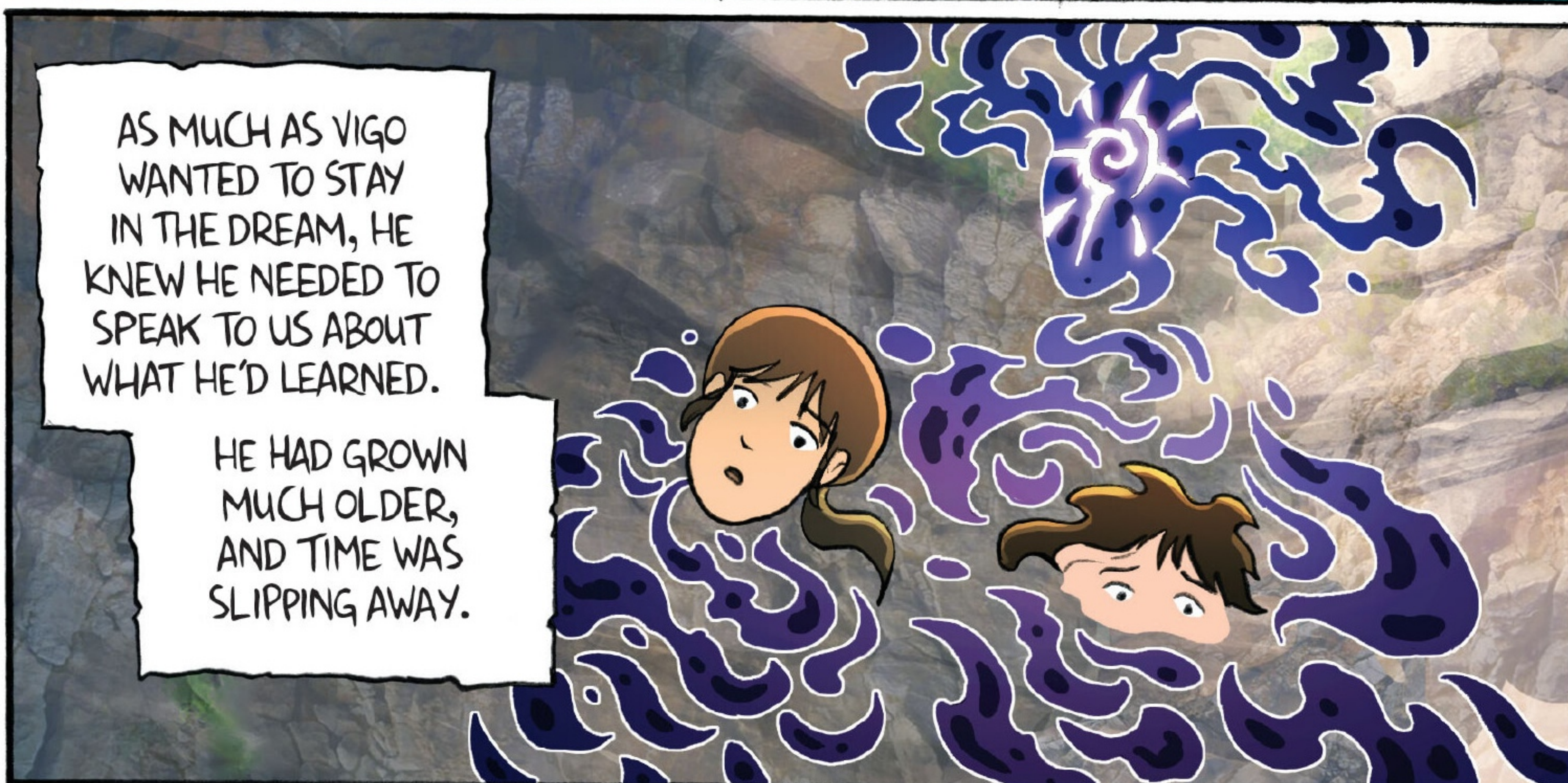
MUCH OLDER NOW, VIGO VENTURED OUT OF HIS ENCLAVE.

HE LEFT THE BEAUTIFUL ILLUSION BEHIND.



AS MUCH AS VIGO WANTED TO STAY IN THE DREAM, HE KNEW HE NEEDED TO SPEAK TO US ABOUT WHAT HE'D LEARNED.

HE HAD GROWN MUCH OLDER, AND TIME WAS SLIPPING AWAY.





WHEN VIGO RETURNED FROM THE VOID, ALLEDIA SEEMED DIFFERENT.

HE SOON REALIZED THAT HE HAD TRAVELED THREE HUNDRED YEARS INTO THE PAST.



HE COULD FEEL HIS LIFE NEARING ITS END...

HE HAD TO TRY TO COMMUNICATE WITH US IN SOME WAY...

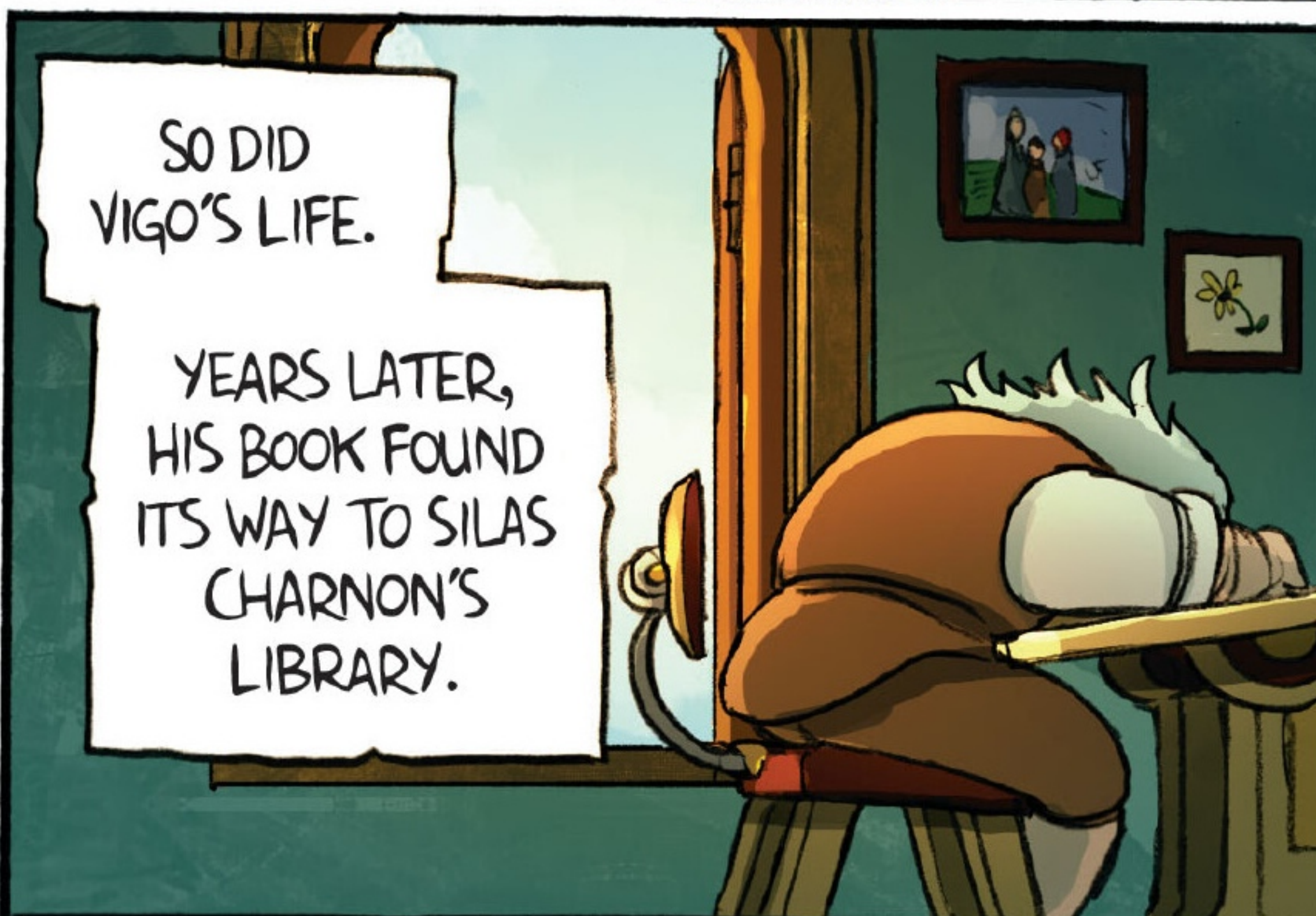


VIGO MANAGED TO FIND A SMALL PLACE TO STAY IN LUCIEN. AND THEN HE BEGAN TO WRITE.



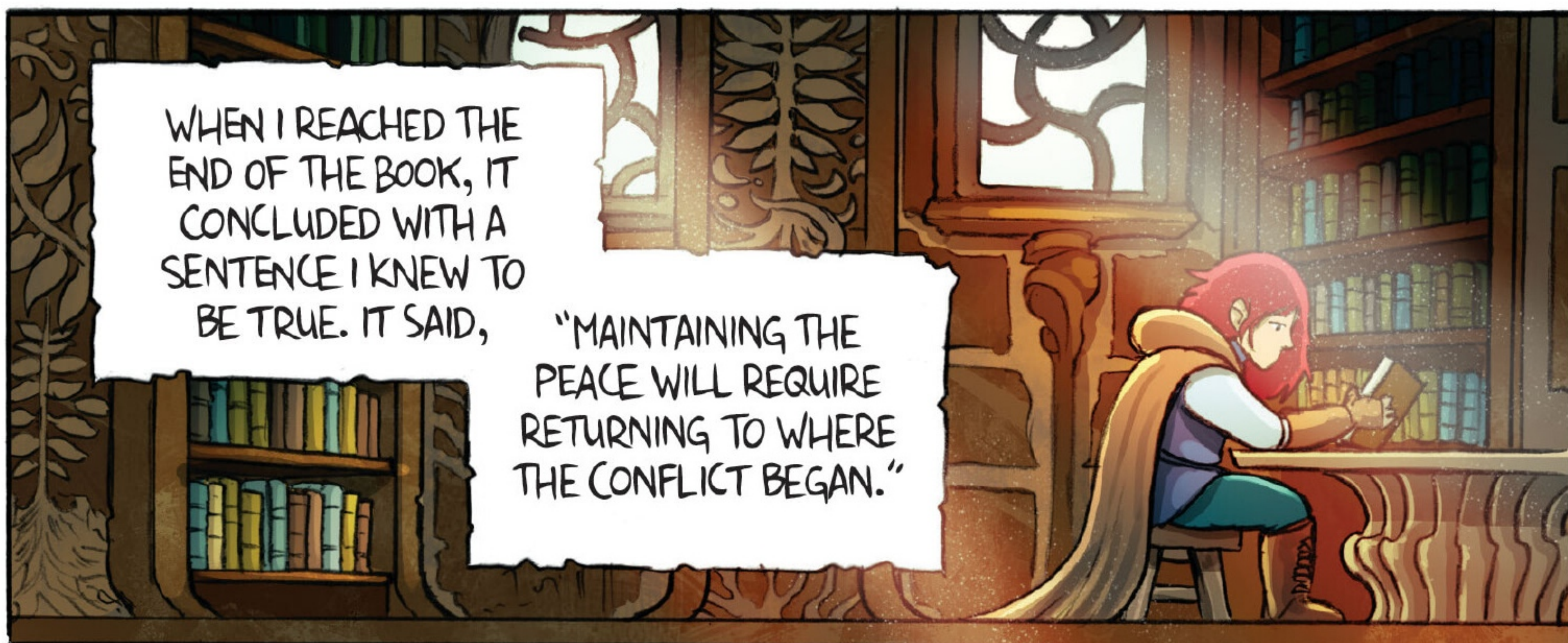
HE SPENT HIS LAST DAYS WRITING "THE BOOK OF LIGHT."

AND AS THE BOOK CAME TO ITS CONCLUSION--



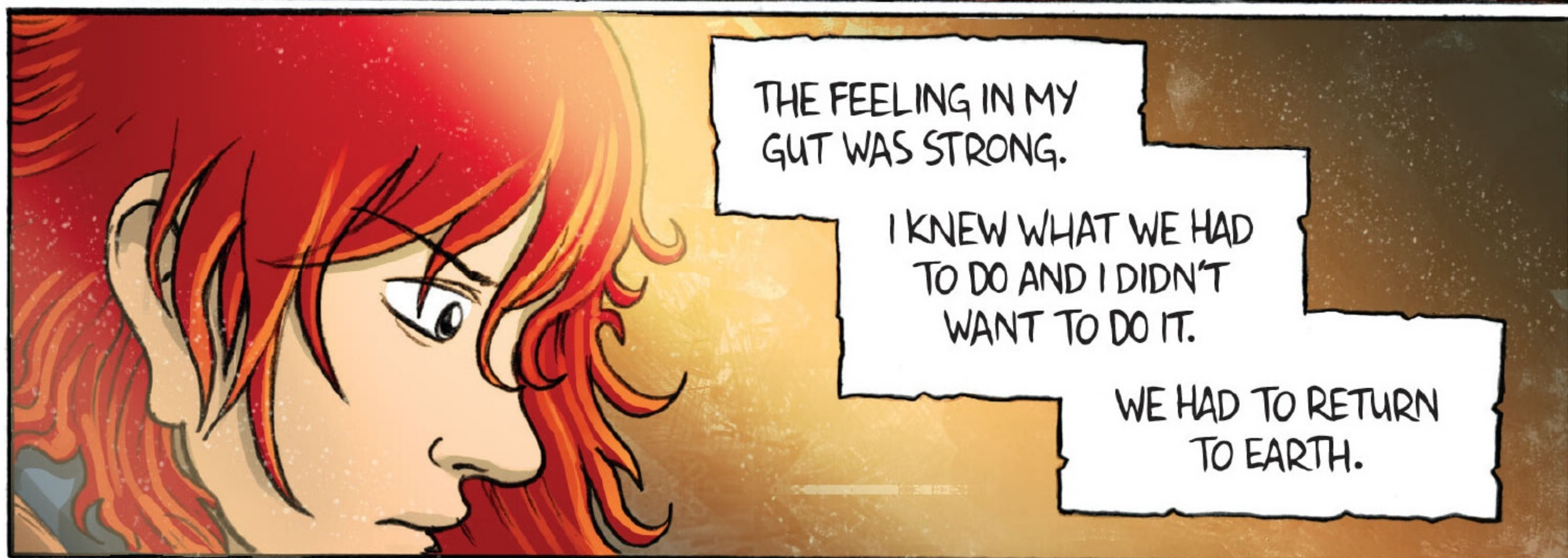
SO DID VIGO'S LIFE.

YEARS LATER, HIS BOOK FOUND ITS WAY TO SILAS CHARNON'S LIBRARY.



WHEN I REACHED THE
END OF THE BOOK, IT
CONCLUDED WITH A
SENTENCE I KNEW TO
BE TRUE. IT SAID,

"MAINTAINING THE
PEACE WILL REQUIRE
RETURNING TO WHERE
THE CONFLICT BEGAN."



THE FEELING IN MY
GUT WAS STRONG.

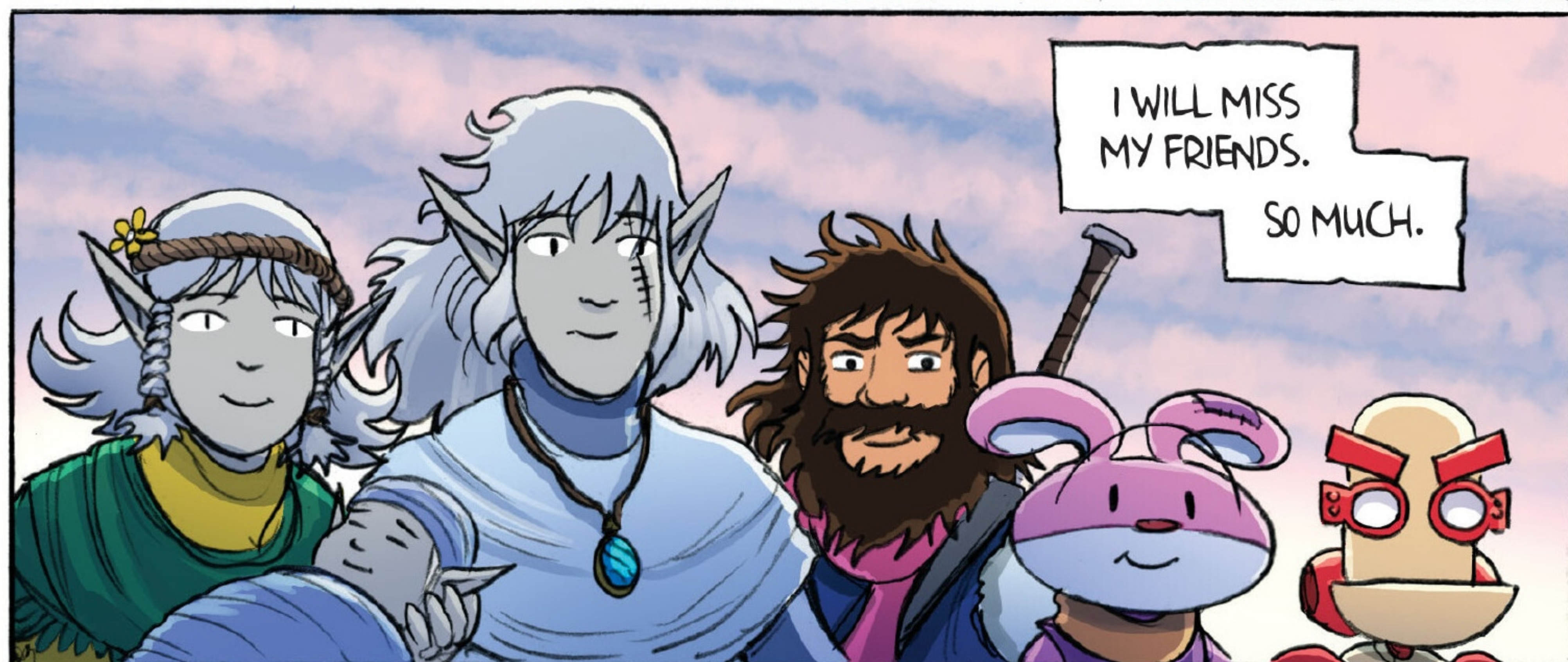
I KNEW WHAT WE HAD
TO DO AND I DIDN'T
WANT TO DO IT.

WE HAD TO RETURN
TO EARTH.



I EXPLAINED TO TRELIS
WHY WE NEEDED TO GO
BACK TO EARTH.

HE AGREED THAT MY
RETURN WAS NECESSARY IN
THE ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST
THE SHADOWS.



I WILL MISS
MY FRIENDS.

SO MUCH.

WE SAID OUR GOODBYES IN A CASUAL WAY, AS THOUGH WE WERE ONLY PARTING FOR A SHORT TIME, BUT WE KNEW IT WASN'T TRUE.

WE JOURNEYED BACK INTO THE CAVERNS INSIDE DEMON'S HEAD MOUNTAIN.

BACK TO THE BEGINNING.

I WILL NEVER FORGET THEM.

PLACES THAT HAD ONCE SEEMED DANGEROUS AND ALIEN TO US NOW FELT FAMILIAR.

IT WAS ALL SO BEAUTIFUL AND SERENE.

WE COULD WALK THROUGH ANY STRANGE NEW LAND WITHOUT FEAR IN OUR HEARTS.

IN PLACE OF FEAR WE FELT A LOVE FOR LIFE AND ITS MANY ADVENTURES.

WHEN WE BEGAN OUR JOURNEY, I FELT AS IF OUR LIVES WERE SPINNING OUT OF OUR CONTROL.

WHAT I LEARNED OVER THE YEARS IS THAT LIFE IS ALWAYS EBBING AND FLOWING, FROM GOOD DAYS TO BAD ONES.

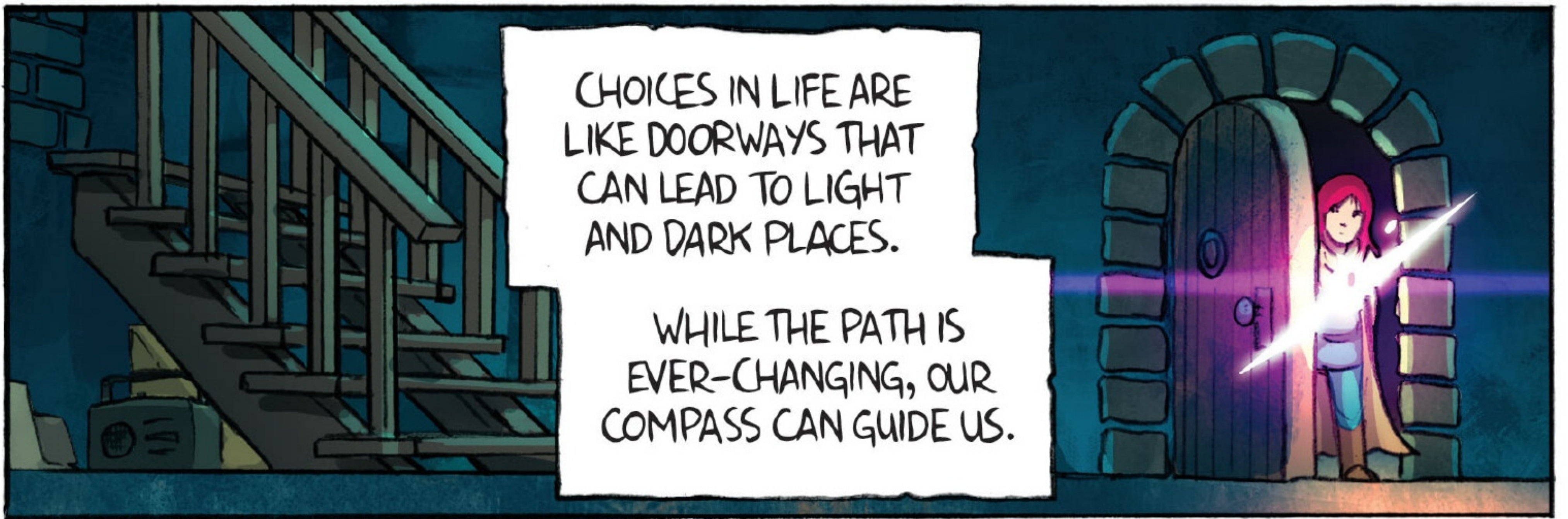
WHILE WE CAN'T CONTROL LIFE ITSELF, WE CAN DO OUR BEST TO MANAGE HOW WE REACT TO WHAT IT PRESENTS TO US OVER TIME.

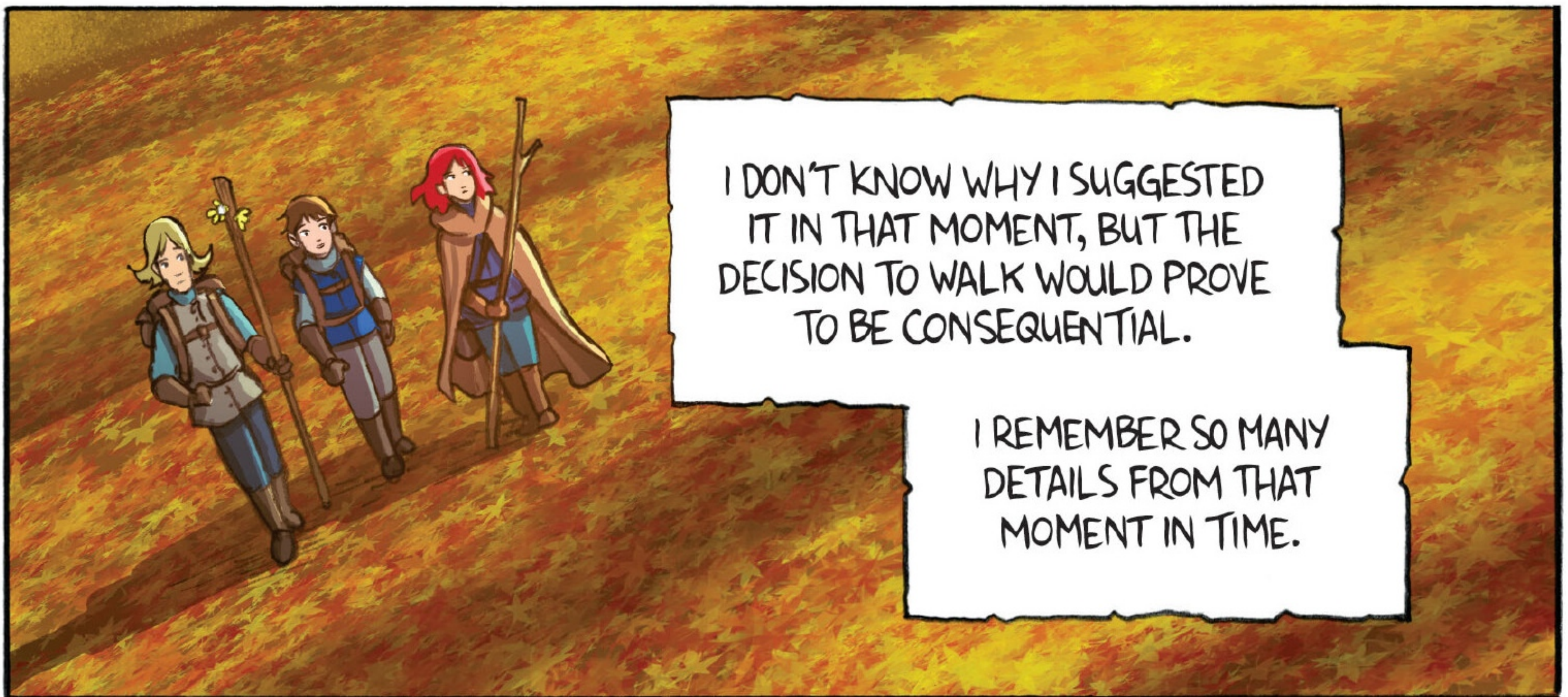
BY STAYING CALM, WE CAN MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES TO MOVE OUR LIVES FORWARD AND TO RIDE THE WAVES THAT SURROUND US.

EVEN IN THE MOST TRYING TIMES, YOU CAN FIND LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS.

WE ALL HAVE WITHIN US A COMPASS, A GUIDING LIGHT. IF WE FOLLOW IT, WE CAN MAKE OUR WAY HOME.

BUT IT REQUIRES A WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN.





I DON'T KNOW WHY I SUGGESTED IT IN THAT MOMENT, BUT THE DECISION TO WALK WOULD PROVE TO BE CONSEQUENTIAL.

I REMEMBER SO MANY DETAILS FROM THAT MOMENT IN TIME.



I WAS CARRYING WORDS OF WISDOM PASSED DOWN TO ME BY MY TEACHERS ON ALLEDIA.

THE WORDS WOULD HELP GUIDE ME ON MY HOME WORLD.



I STARTED TO WORRY ABOUT BEING BACK ON EARTH.

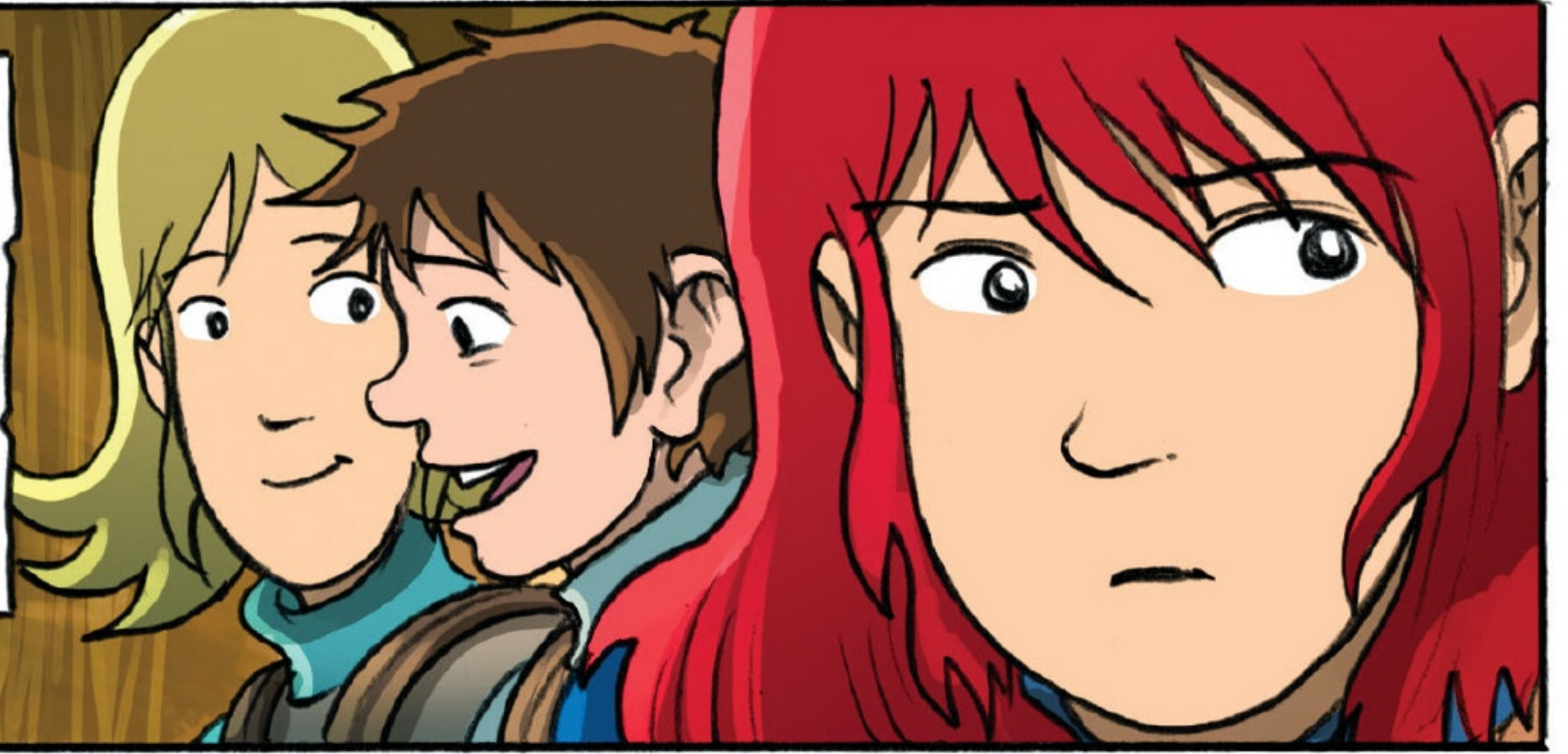
AFTER ALL, IKOL WAS CREATED HERE, BORN FROM THE CHAOS OF TECHNOLOGY MIXING WITH OUR TENDENCY TO COMPLICATE THINGS.



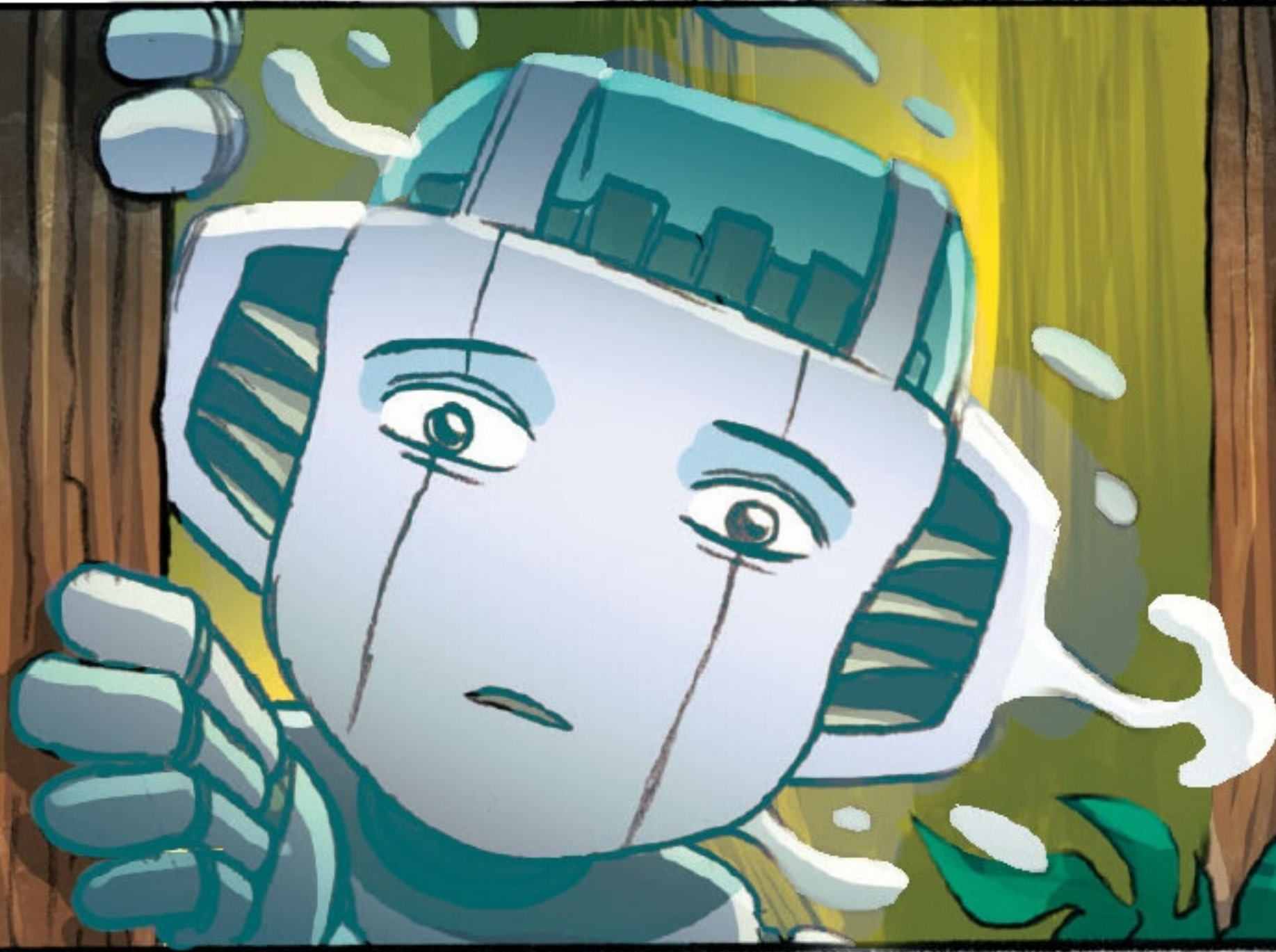
I MUST REMEMBER TO WALK CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW MY COMPASS.

CRUNCH!

MANY OTHERS WERE
WATCHING US NOW--
BOTH FRIENDS AND
FOES--ON EARTH
AND IN FARAWAY
GALAXIES.



ONE ADVENTURE WAS
COMING TO A CLOSE
AND A NEW ONE WAS
ABOUT TO BEGIN.



I HAD NO IDEA WHAT WE
WOULD FIND ONCE WE
RETURNED TO THE CITY,
BUT FOR A BRIEF MOMENT
DURING OUR WALK, I
REMEMBER THE AIR WAS
FILLED WITH JOKES,
LAUGHTER, STORIES, AND
REFLECTIONS ON LIFE--

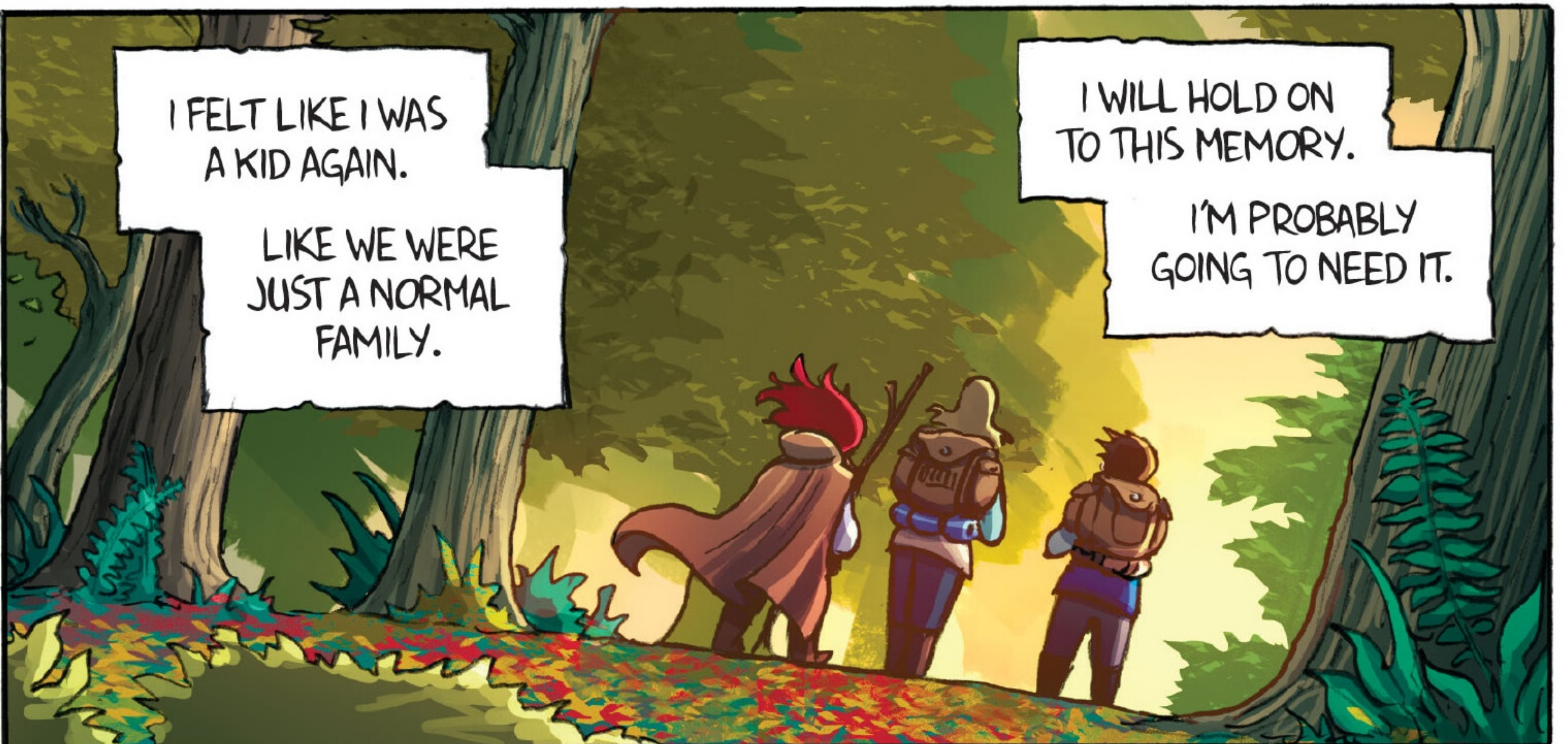


I FELT LIKE I WAS
A KID AGAIN.

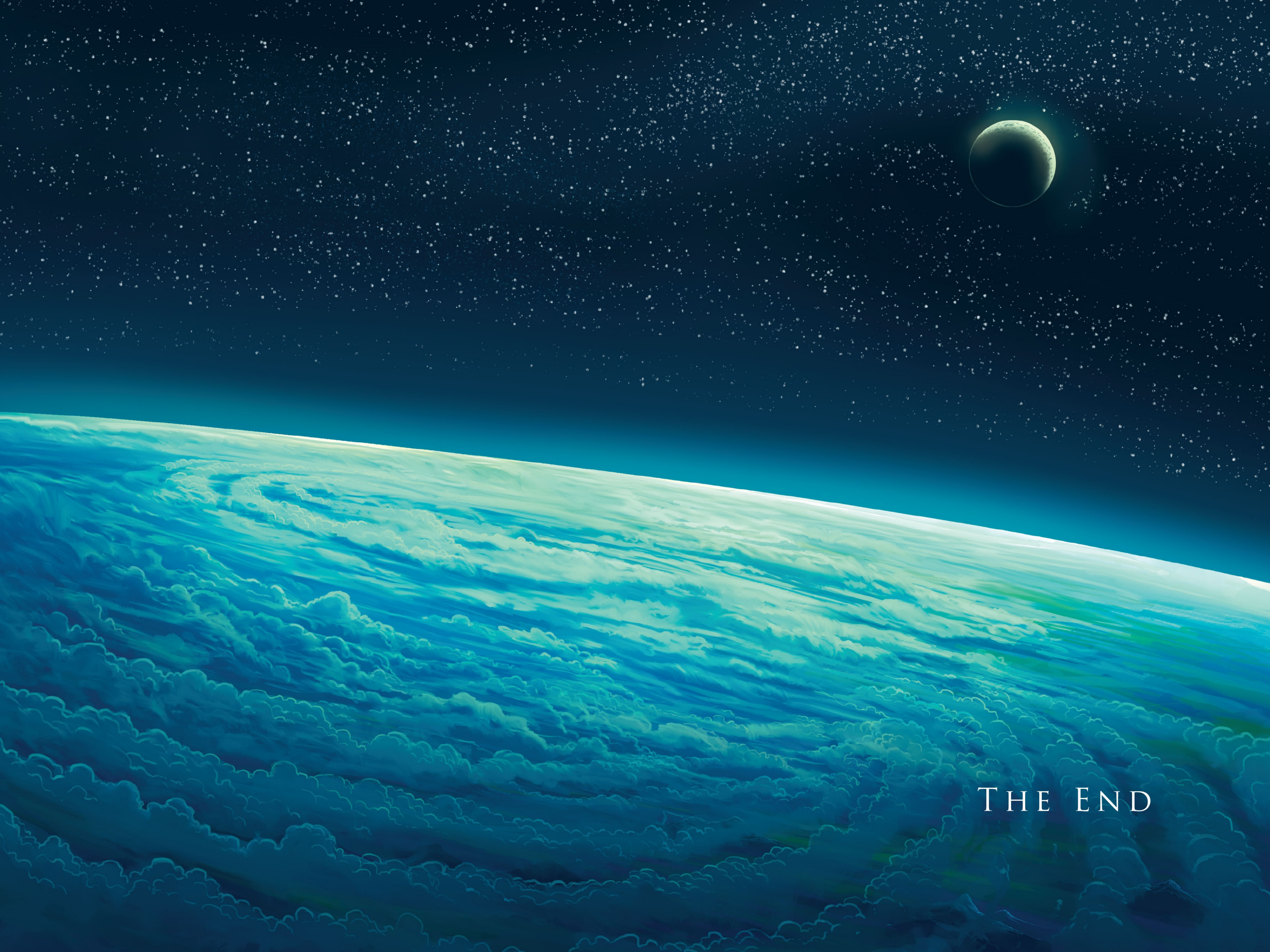
LIKE WE WERE
JUST A NORMAL
FAMILY.

I WILL HOLD ON
TO THIS MEMORY.

I'M PROBABLY
GOING TO NEED IT.







THE END



CREATED AT
BOLT CITY
P R O D U C T I O N S

WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED BY
KAZU KIBUISHI

COLORS & BACKGROUNDS BY
KAZU KIBUISHI
JASON CAFFOE

PAGE FLATTING
AUDRA ANN FURUICHI
JOEY HAN
ERIK SCHEEL
JASON CAFFOE

BACKGROUND ASSISTS
AMY KIM KIBUISHI

THANK YOU

Judith Hansen, Cassandra Pelham Fulton, Phil Falco, David Saylor, Nancy Caffoe, Juni & Sophie Kibuishi, Taka & Tao & Tyler & Trenton Kibuishi, Junko & Masa Kibuishi, Emi Kibuishi, Keith Boyak, the Boyak family, the Scheel family, the Eversole family, the Machek family, Donna Barba Higuera & Mark Maciejewski, Sylvie Rabineau, Darren Trattner, everyone at Scholastic, Dan Ullom & the Ullom family, Danny Charbel, Pan & Coffee in San Antonio, 2 Rivers Coffee in New Braunfels.

Thank you to all the librarians, booksellers, parents, and readers for whom this book was made.





WINDSOR

GULFEN

Stengard

Valcor

GANON'S GATE

Frontera

Skyway

Sparkton

Cielis

Golbez Cycle

PIT ROCK

Tunivale

The Spires

Selina's station

Vigo's Enclave

Ippo

Coco

COCONINO VALLEY

Pomo

COCONINO MOUNTAINS

Nautilus

Gorbon

Black Forest

Demon's Head Mountain

NOBUO RANGE

Gondoa Mountain

TAKA RIVER

Hanalis

Ice Prison of Korthan

The Quarry

LUFEN

Drucker Canyon

